

VILLANOVA SPRING 2008 NURSING

A PUBLICATION OF THE VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NURSING



The Power of *Partnerships*



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Contact the editor, Ann Barrow McKenzie ’86 B.S.N., ’91 M.S.N., R.N., by e-mail at ann.mckenzie@villanova.edu or by phone at (610) 519-6814. For class notes, please include your name, home address, home phone, employer, title/position, work address, work phone, Villanova degree/s and year/s, and e-mail address.

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On the Cover: (Clockwise from top): The cross for the new College of Nursing building is lifted into place. In Philadelphia, the presence of Elise Pizzi, M.S.N., CRNP at Unity Clinic also reflects the mission of the College and Villanova University, the nation’s only Augustinian university. Claire Baldwin ’86 M.S.N., R.N. is vice president for patient care services at Bryn Mawr Hospital, the site of a longstanding clinical partnership and a new faculty loan program. The Independence Blue Cross Nurse Scholars Program benefits students from the College and other area schools. In Elko, Nev., Jennifer Lanzo ’07 B.S.N. as a senior enjoyed her health promotion experience with Western Shoshone children. Many Nursing students would not be able to take part in multicultural or international opportunities if not for partial support from the Connelly Foundation Endowment. Fathiya Al Khazi, a Nursing student from the Sultanate of Oman, congratulates the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president, on his Inauguration Day.

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Dear Alumni and Friends of the College of Nursing:

We are all familiar with the phrase “it takes a village” in reference to the collaboration and team effort required to accomplish an objective, move an agenda or execute a plan. There is no question that this is the history of the College of Nursing’s success. Partnerships have been essential in growing and developing our College into a mature professional school of quality. Partnerships will be the critical element in advancing its future and sustaining its prominence.

Nursing education at Villanova University has always had a special relationship with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Through that partnership, our students are offered the formative experiences that result in well-educated nursing graduates who are conversant with the world of ideas and who are exposed to both the structure and content of other disciplines. Some of these experiences are foundational to the nursing major. Others play a critical role in cultivating inquiry, nurturing the spirit and fostering an appreciation of the aesthetic. The result is a well-educated and liberally educated professional nurse.

Unlike many other professional schools, colleges of nursing could not function without their clinical partners.

When collegiate nursing education developed, and moved beyond a history rooted in hospital-based training schools, a new relationship was forged between institutions that provide health care and universities that educate nurses. University faculty provide instruction at clinical sites, but the patients and staff of clinical agencies remain essential to the educational process. Theory must be transformed into practice, and despite contemporary methods of simulation and innovative instructional strategies emerging from advanced technology, nursing education programs require the support and cooperation of hospitals, clinics, public health and home health agencies, schools and long-term-care facilities. Over the years, strong bonds have developed between our programs and major providers of health care. These relationships mutually benefit student education and faculty research, but also provide a supply of well-educated nurses who become employed in those institutions. At Villanova, there would be no College of Nursing without the partnerships we enjoy with the outstanding clinical resources of the Greater Philadelphia area.

Likewise, there has been an extraordinary investment in nursing education by corporations, the insurance industry and private foundations through scholarships and public relations efforts that encourage

recruitment into the profession. These initiatives not only fuel a continuous flow of nurses prepared to meet increasing societal needs, but also serve as catalysts for innovation in nursing education and the development of nursing faculty.

At Villanova, the role of the Connelly Foundation, Independence Blue Cross and the Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation are recent and vivid examples of relationships that have been transformational in the development of our College of Nursing. Their engagement is significant in positioning us for the future. Similarly, Johnson & Johnson’s national media campaign encourages recruitment into nursing careers and raises the public visibility of the profession and its opportunities, as well as the profession’s critical issues of supply and demand that directly impact quality patient care.

The support that the College has received over its 54-year history from generations of Villanova trustees and presidents has been critical to our success and will continue to be in the years that follow. Equally important are our relationships with you, our alumni, parents of our students, devoted and generous friends and our College’s Board of Consul-

tors. The recent leadership gift of James V. O’Donnell ’63 VSB is a stellar example, but so is a \$5 contribution that we receive every month from a loyal friend. You support us in ways too numerous to list. You enhance our ability to achieve excellence through your financial contributions, advice, interest and service. Your engagement in the College of Nursing is the ultimate partnership.

On behalf of our faculty, staff and students, I thank all of you for your generous support and interest in nursing education. We look forward to strengthening our valued partnerships and with your continued help, the College of Nursing will Advance the Future of the nursing profession and nursing education at Villanova in particular. We appreciate your confidence in us.

Sincerely,



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



“Partnerships have been an essential ingredient in growing and developing our College into a mature professional school of quality.”



The Power of *Partnerships*

In the spirit of cooperation and collaboration, the College of Nursing's partnerships leverage resources and enhance its efforts locally and globally.

Through the synergistic relationships established with a variety of institutions and organizations, Villanova University's College of Nursing is advancing the future of nursing and nursing education. The College enjoys longstanding partnerships with about 75 clinical agencies that offer practica sites for its students. Those partnerships are extremely important. The College also interacts with other education-related and health-care organizations, as well as with religious and international groups, to ensure the strongest outcomes for students and alumni and ultimately to assure the best health-care outcomes for patients and communities. On these pages, we feature how several of these special relationships create synergy.



The Power of Partnerships

Two Vital Links in Pennsylvania

The College of Nursing expands educational opportunities in nursing in concert with Independence Blue Cross and the Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation.



The College of Nursing's undergraduate, master's and Ph.D. students expressed their appreciation to Independence Blue Cross (IBC) and the Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation (PHEF) at a reception on February 26 in the President's Lounge of the Connelly Center on campus.

For several years, the College of Nursing has been associated with Independence Blue Cross (IBC), southeastern Pennsylvania's largest health insurer. After consulting with M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, as well as with selected other deans of nursing schools, IBC recognized the priority need for nurse educators to ease the shortages in nursing, thereby improving patient care. This partnership has grown from the funding of student grants to full funding of a faculty position as of July 2007.

In March 2004, IBC launched its Nurse Scholars Program in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Higher Education

Foundation (PHEF). The initial three-year, \$3 million grant program has been of great benefit to undergraduate and graduate students at selected nursing schools in the region. At the College of Nursing, 234 students have received a total of \$1.3 million in scholarship assistance from IBC/PHEF. These scholarships help students complete their degrees sooner than would be possible without this assistance.

The College was one of 11 nursing programs chosen from 55 applicants to receive a Nursing Faculty Line Program grant. This award of \$50,000 per year to partially fund a salary is effective for a three-year period that began in 2006-07. The College applies the grant to help fund a faculty position for the *BSNExpress* Program and to add a second



The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., '75 A&S, University president, hosted a luncheon on October 10, 2007, at Villanova University's Picotte Hall at Dundale to thank Independence Blue Cross (IBC) and the Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation (PHEF) for their many contributions to nursing and specifically to the College of Nursing. Among the guests were (from left) Courtney Smith, IBC's social mission programs analyst; Father Donohue; Sheila Hess, manager of IBC's Social Mission Programs; Joseph A. Frick, IBC president and chief executive officer; Marguerite K. Schlag '68 B.S.N., Ed.D., R.N., assistant dean, associate professor and director of the College's Graduate Nursing Program; Michael H. Hershock, PHEF president and chief executive officer; Rose O'Driscoll '64 B.S.N., M.S.N., R.N., assistant dean for administration and assistant professor of Nursing; M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor; M. Frances Keen, D.N.Sc., R.N., assistant dean, associate professor and director of the College's Undergraduate Program; Joseph Manotti, PHEF coordinator of Nursing Programs; Lesley A. Perry, Ph.D., R.N., associate dean and professor of Nursing; and Stephen Fera, IBC vice president of Social Mission Programs.

cohort of adult students to this 14-month concentrated nursing baccalaureate program.

IBC partially supports many community health-care clinics throughout Philadelphia, and the College's undergraduates have participated in IBC's summer internships at these sites. This major health insurer can give students both "a behind-the-scenes look at how the business of managed care works," IBC has noted, as well as a chance to assist in its community clinics. The IBC internships "provide a real-world laboratory to bridge the gap between the clinical material taught in the classroom and the actual practice of health administration in a business and clinical setting," according to IBC, which selects interns based on faculty recommendation and its own interviews. In the semesters following their internships, College of Nursing students incorporate this experience into their course work.

Nicole Roskowski '07 B.S.N., R.N. in 2006 took part in a dual IBC internship at the Children's Clinic of the North Penn Visiting Nurse Association and the Adult Health Center of Gwynedd-Mercy College, both housed in the same building in Lansdale, Pa. She helped develop patient teaching materials for children and assisted with direct patient teaching for the adults.

"I enjoyed experiencing the office setting of health care with my research and writing of the health teaching materials," Roskowski recalled. She especially liked stepping away from a desk to see up-close how a visiting nurse group is organized. She said she found her experience "valuable for my understanding of teamwork outside of a hospital setting." However, she emphasized, "It's even more valuable when we can share." After her internship, Roskowski looked forward to discussing with classmates and professors how to work toward solutions for the challenges in health care. (See page 6 for first-hand accounts from two other former IBC interns.)

Tama Berman '06 B.S.N., R.N., who participated in the first IBC summer internship in 2005, was hired as a medical policy coordinator in that IBC department 18 months later. "Until the internship, I didn't realize that a nurse could work in this capacity advocating for patients," she said. As a coordinator, Berman now applies evidence-based criteria to ensure that IBC members get the quality care and services they need.

For Roskowski, Berman and other College of Nursing students who took part in the internships, the experience gained by their association with IBC will extend well beyond graduation.

Jennifer Specht '98 B.S.N., M.S.N. R.N., currently a Ph.D. student at the College of Nursing, talks with Stephen Fera, IBC vice president of Social Mission Programs, at the February 26 reception. In the background is Michael H. Hershock, PHEF president and chief executive officer.





The Power of Partnerships

Inside Health Care through the Eyes of Two Interns

For two months last summer, Khine Shan, from Myanmar, and Colleen Avery, from Turnersville, N.J., interned in Philadelphia. Both are now juniors at the College of Nursing. At the headquarters of Independence Blue Cross (IBC), Avery interned in the Claim Payment and Policy Department. At the National Nursing Centers Consortium (NNCC), which represents more than 100 U.S. nurse-managed health centers, Shan participated in three projects:

- **Lead Safe Babies** educates new mothers about the dangers of lead poisoning and provides them with the materials needed to keep their children free from it. Outreach workers visit mothers in their homes to talk with them about how to wash toys, clean surfaces weekly and avoid peeling paint. They give mothers a bucket of cleaning supplies to remind them to wipe surfaces and eliminate dust to prevent children from ingesting paint chips.
- **The Lead Safe Home Study** uses a study team to evaluate a home at the start of the study and 12 months after lead safety education. The team prompts parents to ask their health-care providers to test their child's blood for lead several times during the child's first three years.
- **Student Run Philly Style** offers marathon training to help young people succeed in life.

information in the database to keep track of each participant.

Because Lead Safe Babies has had significant success in preventing lead poisoning among children in Philadelphia, the NNCC is developing a toolkit model so that other organizations can replicate the program in their state. I helped make a toolkit that includes the logic model, an explanation about the process, the necessary forms and booklets, the state's lead poisoning prevention contacts, information about applying for grants and the NNCC contacts for more comprehensive information. I also researched lead poisoning treatment and prevention in different states to include in the toolkit.

At a time of rising obesity rates among children, Student Run Philly Style is the city's only program sponsoring marathon training to help young people to perform well and graduate from high school. It offers them a safe, positive activity to do after school and a positive adult relationship to help them succeed. Participants try hard to accomplish goals

beyond their dreams and to complete a 26-mile road race, which is an accomplishment that less than 1 percent of the U.S. population has achieved. The program encourages them to motivate themselves, build up confidence, develop friendships and learn respect for themselves and others.

I went to some of the marathon training summer clinics, held on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Members of the various running teams that gathered there usually took part in running games and races, cross training and tossing Frisbees. We provided refreshments and created some fun things for them to enjoy. It cannot be denied that the one who is able to commit to achieving such an arduous goal as a marathon will probably be devoted to the important things in his or her life, such as school and job.

Overall, the experiences and knowledge I gained while taking part in these projects, as well as by working with different people, were immense. I especially admired Tine Hansen-Turton, M.G.A., the NNCC's executive director. She is really energetic and enthusiastic about running nurse-managed care centers and supporting nurses and underserved people. While I haven't decided what I really want to do after graduation, I am interested in being a nurse practitioner (NP) and have a desire to run nurse-managed clinics.



Into the Home and out on a Track

By Khine Shan, Class of 2009

I wanted to participate in this internship at the National Nursing Centers Consortium (NNCC) last summer to have a chance to work in a community and provide assistance to uninsured or underserved people.

During our home visits with other outreach workers for Lead Safe Babies, some mothers seemed really interested in the program while some were not very concerned. It was very hard to explain to them the seriousness of lead poisoning and the importance of prevention. However, we got a lot of experience by handling their different reactions and responses. After the visits, we recorded



Taking an Active Role in Health Policy R&D

By Colleen Avery, Class of 2009

I decided to pursue the internship at Independence Blue Cross (IBC) last summer because I was interested in seeing how health insurance companies work from “inside the loop.” The opportunity offered exposure to an incredibly different way in which nurses influence and advocate patient care.

In IBC’s Claim Payment and Policy Department, I interned with the medical policy team and precepted under a fabulous medical policy coordinator, Kathy Endres, R.N. In my first four weeks, I worked closely with the research and technology evaluation team. I conducted research technology assessments of the current literature on potential topics for coverage determination and on topics on which the medical policy coordinators needed further research assistance.

My largest projects dealt with the cryoablation of breast fibroadenomas, MRI-guided focused ultrasound ablation of uterine fibroids and genetic testing for Long QT syndrome. After reviewing the literature, I was able to make a recommendation for coverage, non-coverage or classification as experimental/investigational.

Once I formed a sound basis in the evaluation of current research, I focused more on the development of medical policies, either completely new coverage determinations or updates. Each policy is updated annually with a literature review. I developed the new policy on Magnetic Resonance Angiography of the spine, and followed it through the process of policy review, medical director approval and large committee approvals.

I enjoyed conducting the literature reviews and becoming familiar with specific procedures in such depth. My favorite topic was genetic testing for Long QT syndrome, a heart rhythm disorder that can lead to fainting or sudden death. As health insurance companies develop policies on genetic tests for many different genetically linked diseases, the biggest issue is how these tests influence both the plan of treatment and the outcome of the disease progression.

Overall, I came away from the IBC internship knowing that there are incredible health-care professionals working in the insurance industry who truly act as advocates for the patient. A great deal of research, passion and work go into the development of these medical policies. While the professionals writing them may not be able to physically “see” the patient these policies affect, that patient is always kept in the forefront of policy development. In a time where health-care dollars are spread thin, the people I worked with genuinely put in the effort to ensure their patients receive reliable, safe and appropriate care.

In my eight weeks at IBC, the experience helped me realize just how many opportunities are available to nurses after graduation. There is no doubt in my mind that I will work in a setting where evidence-based practice and continuing research are emphasized. I am also sure that I would like to pursue graduate study in the future, keeping nursing and medical research at the forefront of my career.

How Pennsylvania Invests in the Nursing Workforce

By providing resources to support clinical teaching at the College of Nursing, the Center for Health Careers takes several important steps to address the nursing shortage.

Thanks to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the College now has an association with a larger number of clinical faculty and a new resource to support clinical teaching. Through the Pennsylvania Workforce Investment Board (WIB), part of the Department of Labor and Industry, the College is participating in the Pennsylvania Center for Health Careers’ Nursing Education Initiatives, including the Clinical Education and Loaned Faculty projects.

The center’s members, a cross-section of public and private sector leaders, were appointed by Governor Edward G. Rendell to advise him on building a strong workforce development system that also meets state education and economic goals. These advisors, recognizing the shortage of nurses and the complex issues surrounding solutions, made funding available for projects from which the College has benefited.

“We have received a tremendous amount of support from the Commonwealth,” says Frances Keen, D.N.Sc., R.N.,C, assistant dean and director of the Nursing Undergraduate Program. Last year, the College of Nursing applied for grant money that funds, along with contributions from the University, the position of clinical education coordinator. In July 2007, the College welcomed back an alumna and former instructor, Angelina Arcamone ’82 B.S.N., ’86 M.S.N., D.N.Sc., R.N., CCE, to this new position (see page 23). Dr. Arcamone assists in recruiting, orienting, guiding and developing clinical adjunct faculty, and serves as a resource and support for them in clinical teaching and evaluation. The University will continue the position in the future to enhance the College of Nursing’s clinical education programs and develop clinical faculty.

This year, the College has partnered with two of its longtime clinical agencies, The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and Bryn Mawr Hospital, to participate in an innovative faculty loan program through WIB’s Center for Health Careers. The program is aimed at increasing the number of nursing graduates by providing funding for health-care institutions to “loan” their



The Power of Partnerships

qualified staff as faculty to nursing programs. While the College has a cadre of excellent, experienced full-time and part-time faculty, noted Dr. Keen, it needs additional clinical faculty to support expanding *BSNExpress* enrollment, as well as more clinical sites for students.

The loaned faculty effort began when the clinical agencies submitted grant proposals to the Department of Labor and Industry. After successful reviews, the agencies are receiving funding for a portion of the salary for several of their master's-prepared nursing employees who are released on a part-time basis from their agency practice to serve on-site as adjunct faculty for the College's clinical practica. Because of this alliance with WIB's projects and the College's many clinical agency partners, the College of Nursing is moving forward in clinical education—all with the goal of solving the nursing shortage and promoting the development of high-quality professional nurses.

This competitively awarded funding will provide five clinical faculty members, two at Bryn Mawr Hospital and three at Children's Hospital. The staffs of both hospitals provide a welcoming and supportive environment for student learning and serve as role models in providing patient care. Both hospitals have achieved the prestigious Magnet™ designation for nursing excellence.

Our Augustinian Connection

College of Nursing students gain clinical experience and nurture community at the Monastery on campus, at missions and at a clinic in Philadelphia.

In harmony with Villanova University's Catholic and Augustinian heritage, the College of Nursing actively interacts both with the Order of St. Augustine and the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova. In one of the more recent collaborations, the College helped to develop and organize the free Unity Clinic, which opened in the summer of 2006 in South Philadelphia.

This clinic is part of a service project initiative of the Augustinian Defenders of the Rights of the Poor (ADROP), which advocates and collaborates with the poor and those who have no voice. M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, serves on ADROP's Board of Directors and its Advisory Council.

"ADROP's Unity Clinic is happy to have a relationship with the College of Nursing," observed the Very Rev. John E. Deegan,

At Bryn Mawr Hospital, a full-service teaching hospital in this western suburb of Philadelphia, the funding will fill the College's need for two qualified clinical adjunct faculty members in medical-surgical nursing. The support also will enhance the hospital's recruitment and retention efforts. Since 1966 the College of Nursing and Bryn Mawr Hospital, part of the Main Line Health System, have enjoyed a productive and strategic partnership to provide outstanding clinical experiences for Villanova's Nursing students. It's a natural affiliation due to the hospital's close proximity to campus and its wide variety of quality clinical experiences.

At Children's Hospital, less than 20 miles from campus, the funding will fill the College's need for three qualified clinical adjunct faculty in pediatrics. It also will support the hospital's efforts to recruit nurses to the bedside and enhance satisfaction among the master's-prepared staff, who while teaching students from the College of Nursing will maintain their hospital employment status and benefits. The College's Ph.D. in Nursing Program also is attractive for the hospital's staff, as it provides the environment for developing excellence in clinical teaching skills.

Recently, the Department of Labor and Industry awarded additional funding to the College to support the purchase of equipment for its clinical skills laboratories. This equipment will enhance and expand the College's clinical simulation learning experiences available to students, especially in the areas of advanced adult health, pediatrics and critical care.



O.S.A., '57
A&S, '60 G.S.,
former Prior
Provincial and
now director of
Justice and
Peace for the
Province. "The

clinic is for uninsured and underinsured adults," he explained, many of whom are Indonesian, Chinese or Hispanic immigrants. "Reaching out to that population is very important. The simple mission of ADROP is to match needs with resources," Father Deegan noted. Serving the inner-city poor "fits beautifully with the clinic," as well as with the charisma of the Augustinians and

College of Nursing students and faculty each year travel to the Augustinian mission in Chulucanas, Peru, during Spring Break to promote health. During this year's trip, senior Kelly Fromuth checked the blood pressure of an elderly woman.

Villanova, because they share a commitment to “build community, serve the needy and bring justice,” he affirmed.

The nurse-managed Unity Clinic, open Tuesday evenings by appointment, is on the ground floor of St. Agnes Continuing Care Center at 1900 St. Broad St. Unity Clinic also is a clinical site for College of Nursing students and a practice site for Nurse Practitioner (NP) faculty and Nursing alumni who volunteer there. Sophomores practice checking vital signs and interact with the patients. B.S.N./M.S.N. Gateway students do physical assessments and health promotion education. NP students conduct advanced patient physical assessments, take health histories and help patients manage their health problems. “Having faculty supervise students in the Nurse Practitioner Program adds quality and quantity of service that we wouldn’t otherwise have,” Father Deegan pointed out. In advising on long-range planning for the clinic, he emphasized, “The faculty are very helpful and encouraging.”

The College’s connections with the Augustinians create community in other ways as well. “Louise Fitzpatrick has been a longtime friend of the Augustinians at Villanova and in the Province,” commented the Very Rev. Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A., ’71 A&S, D. Min., Prior Provincial. “She has been affiliated to the Order of St. Augustine, in recognition of her generous association with the mission of the Augustinians of our Province.” Dean Fitzpatrick serves on the Province’s Wellness Board, and has “graciously invited other members of the College of Nursing to help us” on the board, Father Reilly added. “She and her associates at the College of Nursing have been actively involved in the work of our Health Care Unit at the St. Thomas of Villanova Monastery. They have helped in the recent renovations, both for the Health Care Unit and for the other rooms for the friars. All of their rooms are equipped for assisted living so that the friars can age in place with their needs taken care of,” he said. Nursing students frequently work part-time in the summer as assistants in the health unit, and sophomores can do a clinical rotation there.



Durban, South Africa, is one of the international sites that draws students from the College of Nursing. During their April 2007 trip to set up arrangements with the Augustinians, two faculty members, M. Frances Keen, D.N.Sc., R.N., C, assistant dean and director of the Nursing Undergraduate Program (seated), and Karen McKenna ’70 B.S.N., M.S.N., R.N., clinical assistant professor (not pictured), visited the home of a gogo (the woman in white—gogo is Zulu for grandmother). Women who open their homes as gogo houses receive government funds to provide day services for vulnerable children, many orphaned by AIDS.

While students find the Monastery an ideal site, right on campus, for gaining clinical experience in geriatric practice, there’s another benefit for both the friars and the students. “It’s not just the nursing care,” observed Dean Fitzpatrick, “but the connection with the young people in the University. Sometimes students don’t have elderly people in their lives, and it’s healthy for the priests to have younger people come into that environment.”

For Villanovans, volunteering begins early on and remains a beacon throughout life. Connecting academics with service “isn’t always adding on something or doing something new, but making it all fit together,” Dean Fitzpatrick believes. As Father Reilly noted, Nursing students, faculty and alumni “have visited and served in our missions in Peru and in South Africa. Sharing their talents and learning from these people have provided mutual opportunities for creating a global understanding of mission and service.”



BARBARA JOHNSTON

At Unity Clinic, Elise Robinson Pizzi, M.S.N., CRNP, assistant professor of Nursing (center), consults with a female patient, aided by a translator, Tomy Sukwanputra. The clinic, which serves an immigrant population, is part of an Augustinian service project initiative.

“Having faculty supervise students in the Nurse Practitioner Program adds quality and quantity of service that we wouldn’t otherwise have.”

—The Very Rev. John E. Deegan, O.S.A., ’57 A&S, ’60 G.S., speaking of Unity Clinic in Philadelphia



The Power of Partnerships

International Outreach Opens Doors for Students

As the College of Nursing has expanded opportunities for students to study, volunteer and do practica abroad, it also has gained more international students, including in its online Ph.D. in Nursing Program, which has attracted students from Saudi Arabia and Guam, for example. “I’m very interested in having our research activities become more international,” added M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor. The College is planning to co-sponsor an international conference in the Sultanate of Oman in 2010. The College’s faculty have provided consultation in Oman, as well as on-site continuing education programs.

Additionally, Omani students come to Villanova to enroll in the College’s degree programs. With more than 100 Omani nurses having graduated from the College of Nursing, in Oman’s nursing community, “No matter where you go, you see the evidence of what a 14-year relationship can do,” noted Dean Fitzpatrick with pride about the College’s partnership with Oman’s Ministry of Health. Both groups have benefited. In Oman, there are more bachelor’s- and master’s-prepared nurses who provide leadership and replace expatriates. For the College, the relationship has led to a global outlook for students, faculty and the campus community.



In Muscat in the Sultanate of Oman, Kathy Gray-Siracusa, Ph.D., R.N., M.B.A., CNAA, CCRN, assistant professor (center front), gave a three-day workshop in June 2007 for new and experienced continuing education providers. She returned in March with Isabella Erickson, Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor of Nursing (not pictured), to offer a second workshop on measurement and evaluation.

The Lasting Legacy of the Connelly Foundation

Five years ago, when the College of Nursing celebrated its 50th anniversary, the Connelly Foundation designated \$4 million to create three endowments in Nursing, including endowing the deanship. Each year, the income is applied to advance opportunities for faculty, program and student development; to expand the Connelly-Delouvrier International Scholars Program; and to enhance technology. The funds were part of the foundation’s undesignated portion of its \$10 million gift to Villanova University during The Villanova Campaign.

“The Connelly Foundation has been very good to Villanova University,” observed M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor. For the College of Nursing, “The Connelly Endowments have made it possible for us to move with the trends in our field and to

create the kinds of enhancements, such as international enhancements, that we would never—and I underscore never—have been able to make without their help.”

The College of Nursing’s students may elect to gain several weeks of international experience in Durban, South Africa; Galway, Ireland; or Aomori, Japan. Nursing sophomores can study for a year at the University of Manchester, England. These are all “value-added opportunities for students,” Dean Fitzpatrick said.

The Connelly Endowments also make possible the “enhanced technology that we have now and that we will have in the new building,” noted Dean Fitzpatrick. Slated to open this summer, the College’s new facility with its advanced technology will offer “greater opportunities for collaboration with the health-care providers within our area.”

A Maverick and a Mother's Memory Make a Difference

Why a corporate executive pledged \$1 million to the College of Nursing

By Ann Barrow McKenzie '86 B.S.N., '91 M.S.N., R.N.

Passion and energy are two words that describe American Eagle Outfitters, Inc.'s chief executive officer, James V. O'Donnell '63 VSB. As a young man from the working-class town of Clifton Heights in Delaware County, Pa., he graduated from Monsignor Bonner High School in Drexel Hill. At Villanova University, he majored in economics.

Since that time, he has moved through his executive roles in business with dynamism, dedication and decision making that garnered great success, both personally and for his companies. They include The Gap, Inc., Computer Aided Systems, Inc., Colmen Capital Advisors, Inc. and Lyte, Inc.

O'Donnell demonstrates a spirit of generosity and enthusiasm about developments in the College of Nursing, most notably by having established an endowed scholarship in the College, as well as by recently pledging \$1 million to the College to support its future initiatives.

What motivated O'Donnell to donate to the College? It was the memory of his mother, Mary V. O'Donnell, combined with the critical eye of a businessman. From his personal experience, O'Donnell believes you cannot fully appreciate the value of the nursing profession until you or someone you love needs a nurse. As his aging mother's health began to fail, she required hospitalization. There he saw how devoted the nursing staff was to patient care. "It's really a calling," he said, noting the combination of critical thinking and physical skill it takes to be a professional nurse.

After her death, O'Donnell's three daughters (two of whom graduated from Villanova: Susan '89 A&S, '93 M.A. and Jennifer '00 A&S) reminded him that their grandmother had always wanted to be a nurse. He was ready to do something significant at Villanova, and decided that helping the College of Nursing was the perfect way to honor his mother. "It was one of the most gratifying things I've done in my life," he said with a smile.



"This profession is in need of a pool of talent that is different from years ago."

—James V. O'Donnell '63 VSB

The scholarship O'Donnell established in 2005, The Mary V. O'Donnell Endowed Nursing Scholarship, is given annually to an undergraduate Nursing student who demonstrates academic achievement and financial need. This has allowed O'Donnell to learn more about the College, its students, how the scholarship changes their lives and in turn the lives of others in the community. O'Donnell has been so moved by the correspondence from the scholarship recipients that he continues to talk about them with friends and colleagues, inspiring others to do something similar at their alma mater.

In recent years, O'Donnell became better acquainted with M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D.,

R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor. "I think the world of her," he explained, citing the dean's dedication to nursing and the College. "She is a great representative for the University," he added. Furthering his relationship with the College, this faithful and frank advisor to the University has been serving on the College's Board of Consultants since its inception in early 2007. Concurrently, he knew it was a good time to donate to the University in light of Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova.

"I've always been a little bit of a maverick my whole life and there was no need to stop now," O'Donnell recalled thinking. He decided to pledge \$1 million to the College of Nursing. "I made the right decision, and I hope to do it again," he said.

"I'm a businessman. I look at things through a different prism," O'Donnell offered. Because American Eagle is a leading clothing retailer for the 15-to-25-year-old market, he is connected to that age group. That bond is strengthened through his two daughters who are Villanovans and the young people on campus.

However, O'Donnell is not myopic in his vision. He is keenly aware of the broader demographic changes in this country, especially the aging population, which has a crucial need for the nursing profession. He recognizes the time nurses spend with patients and the impact they have because of their unique contributions to health care. "This profession is in need of a pool of talent that is different from years ago," he explained as part of the logic that was behind his generosity to the College. His ultimate goal is to channel gifted people into a nursing career and add a new dimension to the College by helping it become more widely recognized. He summarized, "I feel strongly about adding value to the community."

Fellowship in Japan Inspires a Student's Research

By Ann Barrow McKenzie '86 B.S.N., '91 M.S.N., R.N.

Last summer, when Eileen Condon left for a one-month fellowship in Tokyo, she took along her research plans and a long list of goals. A Presidential Scholar at the College of Nursing, she returned for her senior year having gained insights into Japanese culture and nursing, and with even more plans for her research. Condon this year has been continuing her study of the professional socialization of nursing students, with a cross-cultural component.

In Tokyo, Condon researched comparative studies of Japanese and American nursing practice at St. Luke's International Hospital. Her fellowship was funded by St. Luke's American Council, which fosters interest and raises funds for the hospital.

"My time in Tokyo has left me with countless memories that I will never forget, as well as a valuable educational experience that will forever impact my nursing career," Condon affirmed. She was impressed by the hospitality

"This experience has encouraged me to become involved with international nursing in my future."

—Eileen Condon, senior



Japanese students welcomed Eileen Condon to St. Luke's College of Nursing in Tokyo.



As part of morning exercises at an adult day care center in Tokyo, Condon demonstrated stretching techniques for the elderly.

of the students and faculty at St. Luke's 520-bed hospital and its College of Nursing, where she interacted with her Japanese counterparts during class time as well as after school.

Condon's fellowship was facilitated by Nancy Sharts-Hopko, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, professor of Nursing at Villanova. Dr. Sharts-Hopko, who has served on the American Council since 1987, worked at St. Luke's College of Nursing from 1984 to 1986. She initiated the exchange of nursing students in 2001, when a Villanova nursing student went to Tokyo. A nursing student from Japan since then has spent time at Villanova.

During Condon's first two weeks in Tokyo, four nursing students from Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea, were also attending the program at St. Luke's. "Getting to know these four students greatly enriched my experience," Condon noted. She learned from the Korean students about the patient-nurse relationship in their country, as well as its educational and health-care systems. "The ability to share such information across cultures was fascinating, and this experience has encouraged me to become involved with international nursing in my future," she added.

At St. Luke's, Condon attended lectures about Japanese medical care and nursing systems, intercultural communications, nursing education and maternal nursing. In turn, she shared her knowledge about the American health-care system and nursing by providing presentations to the Japanese students. She also gave an extensive presentation on Villanova University and its College of Nursing.

Condon's experiences in Japan went well beyond the classroom. She visited a day-care



center for the elderly, she traveled to a rural community to observe public health nursing practices and a home for the elderly, and she shadowed a visiting nurse. All of these experiences complemented her interest in public health. Condon also enjoyed her two-week clinical rotations at St. Luke's on a pediatric unit and in the emergency department.

In studying how Japanese nursing students develop the skills, knowledge and values of their profession, Condon interviewed St. Luke's nursing students, sometimes through a translator, although some of them speak English. "I obtained very valuable information from these interviews, and I anticipate that the results of my study will have many implications for nursing practice," she summed up.

As Condon continues to work on her research project, she can see it having an impact on education as well. "With a greater understanding of professional socialization among nursing students, implications can be made for enhancing the socialization process within many different facets of nursing education," she noted. "Since a comparison between professional socialization in the United States and Japan has not yet been studied, it is my hope that this project will provide significant information for nursing education."

Through her excursions and her home stay with a family, Condon assimilated Japanese culture into her life. She plans to use what she learned during her fellowship to promote cultural understanding and improve nursing practices. "The opportunity to exchange information and experiences with nurses from Korea and Japan will always be an immense and invaluable piece of my nursing education," she emphasized.

St. Luke's was established more than 100 years ago by an American Episcopalian missionary doctor. The hospital's American Council originally managed an endowment from John D. Rockefeller Jr. to support Episcopal medical missions in Japan. Now a separately incorporated entity, the council funds personnel exchanges between St. Luke's and U.S. health-care institutions and educational programs.

This year, Condon further pursued her interest in gaining experience internationally when she traveled to India with Villanova's Campus Ministry. The students gathered data for medical records to assess the health-care needs of people in impoverished villages.

Public Relations Effort Earns an Award

Following the October 2006 shootings in a one-room Amish schoolhouse in Nickel Mines, Pa., nurse anesthetist students at three Philadelphia area nursing schools initiated Project Innocence. The students—from Villanova, St. Joseph's and La Salle universities—donated clothing, food, toys, books and gift certificates to the Amish, a community coping with the loss of five schoolgirls and the wounding of five others, and comforting the family of the gunman.

On January 24, 2007, during National Nurse Anesthetists Week, students from these three nursing schools traveled to Lancaster, Pa., with carloads of donations. They spent time with the Amish families and still remain in contact with them.

To tell the story of Project Innocence, Marie DeFrancesco-Loukas, M.S.N., CRNP, SRNA, a post-master's student in the Nurse Anesthesia Program at Villanova's College of Nursing, developed a poster and a CD presentation for the spring 2007 Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists (PANA) conference, which took place in Hershey, Pa.

For her efforts, DeFrancesco-Loukas was honored with the 2007 American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) Public Relations Recognition Award. She received the honor last August at the association's annual meeting in



Marie DeFrancesco-Loukas, M.S.N., CRNP, SRNA displays the award honoring her public relations work for a project in which nursing students reached out to the Amish after the schoolhouse shootings. She is a post-master's student in the College's Nurse Anesthesia Program.

Denver. She was honored in the category "Best Public Relations Effort by an Individual, Small Group, Organization or Company Not Affiliated with a State Association."

DeFrancesco-Loukas also was awarded the PANA Student Scholarship, which was presented last October at PANA's Fall Symposium in Philadelphia.

Two Master's Students Publish Articles

Even before their graduation in December 2007, two students in the College of Nursing's master's program had published articles.

Jean M. Carroll '07 M.S.N, R.N., who graduated from the Nursing Administration Program, co-authored "Partners in Pediatric Palliative Care: a Program to Enhance Collaboration Between Hospital and Community Palliative Care Services." It was published in the *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*, 24 (3), June/July 2007, 191-195. Her co-authors were G. Santucci,

T.I. Kang and C. Feudtner. Carroll is a member of the pediatric advanced care team at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Carol Proud '07 M.S.N., R.N., OCN, who graduated from the Adult Nurse Practitioner Program, authored "The Use of Oral Transmucosal Fentanyl Citrate During High Dose Rate Gynecologic Brachytherapy." It was published in the *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing*, 11 (4), August 2007, 561-567. She is the clinical leader in the radiation oncology department at Abington (Pa.) Memorial Hospital.

An Accomplished Cohort of Doctoral Students

The College of Nursing's Ph.D. program prepares students for roles in academic settings, with an emphasis on the teacher-scholar. The following is a sampling of the achievements of some of the current doctoral students.

Bonnie Altieri, M.S.N., R.N., CNAA on March 25 successfully defended her dissertation, "Comparison of Staff Nurse Perceptions of Nurse Executive and Nurse Manager Leadership in Magnet and Non-Magnet Hospitals." She becomes the College of Nursing's first Ph.D. in Nursing.

Ann Fronczek, M.S., R.N., FNP in November 2007 successfully defended her dissertation proposal, "The Lived Experience of the Primary Family Caregiver for a Person with Head and Neck Cancer."

Margaret Hattori-Uchima, M.S.N., R.N. in September 2007 was interviewed on Guam's National Public Radio affiliate. She spoke on the topic of health disparities and their relevance to Guam.

Cathy Lovecchio '85 B.S.N., M.S.N., R.N. in June 2007 successfully defended her dissertation proposal, "On-line Alcohol Education: Impact on Knowledge, Attitudes and

Behaviors of First-Year College Students." She is an assistant professor of nursing at the University of Scranton's J.A. Panuska, S.J., College of Professional Studies.

Amy McKeever, M.S.N., CRNP in July 2007 successfully defended her dissertation proposal, "Female College Students' Self-Reported Behavioral Change After an Educational Intervention to Reduce Behaviors Associated with Cervical Cancer Risk."

JoAnn Platko, M.S.N., R.N., CRNA in September 2007 was re-elected president of District II of the Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists (PANA). She spoke at its fall 2007 symposium in Philadelphia on "The Future of Nurse Anesthesia Education in Pennsylvania."

Cynthia Rubenstein, M.S.N., R.N., PNP in January became a faculty member in the Department of Nursing at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va.

Anne Vitale M.S.N., APRN,BC in August 2007 successfully defended her dissertation proposal, "Nurses' Lived Experience of Reiki for Self-Care." She was awarded the Alpha Nu Chapter Sigma Theta Tau International Education Award. She represented the New Jersey State Nurses Association on the New Jersey Nursing Stakeholder Taskforce on the Nursing Faculty Shortage, sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Vitale published the article, "An Integrative Review of Reiki Touch Therapy Research" in *Holistic Nursing Practice*, 21 (4), July/August 2007, 167-179. She also presented "An Integrative Review of Reiki Touch Therapy: Implications for Nursing Research and Practice" at the 39th biennial convention of Sigma Theta Tau International, which took place last November in Baltimore.

Continuing Education Program Gains Reaccreditation



A suture workshop is one of the College of Nursing's many offerings to keep clinicians up-to-date.

The College of Nursing received a full six years of continuing accreditation for its Continuing Education (CE) in Nursing and Health Care Program from the American Nurses Credentialing Center

(ANCC). This voluntary process certifies that the program has been evaluated by professionals, that it meets or exceeds established standards and that it is achieving its own goals. Typical accreditation is for four years for continuing education programs.

The College established its CE program in 1979. Today, it offers national and regional conferences, seminars, workshops and certificate programs to clinicians and nursing administrators, averaging 1,000 participants and 40 programs each year. The program's director is

Lynore DeSilets, Ed.D., R.N., BC, assistant dean and assistant professor. She is a professional development expert who was involved in the original grant-funded CE program.

The College of Nursing is part of a select group. Fewer than 25 colleges and universities are currently accredited by ANCC, according to Dr. DeSilets. The reaccreditation process is a rigorous one, defining standards for high performance and the measures to adhere to those standards. "The process involves a comprehensive analysis that includes a review of goals, CE processes and the capacity to achieve the goals," she explained. "There needs to be evidence of adherence to the processes over an extended period of time."

Dr. DeSilets sees a bright future for the College and its CE program. "As more states require continuing education credits for relicensure, the College of Nursing is well-positioned to provide service to the nursing profession," she noted. "Continuing education serves as a foundation to support the competence and accountability of nurses and promote quality health care."

Laptops Expand the Options for Active Learners

By Marita Frain '69 B.S.N., Ed.M., R.N., Assistant Professor of Nursing

PC Magazine and *The Princeton Review* recently named Villanova University No. 1 of the "Top 10 Wired Colleges and Universities." Villanova has a number of broadcast points across the campus that provide students with system-wide access to cyberspace—in their residence halls or classrooms, while sitting on a bench or while studying in Falvey Memorial Library. Learning can take place anywhere and anytime.

In fall 2006, all full-time freshmen at the College of Nursing were issued Dell D-620 laptops. By fall 2009, every full-time Nursing undergraduate will have a University-issued laptop. Laptops are issued for a two-year period, with an upgraded model issued in the junior year.

Nursing freshmen and sophomores use their laptops in a variety of useful ways. While most of the software is common across the University, the applications for the nursing major are evolving. This year, Villanova has encouraged the option of "e-books," letting students choose between reading course materials in a print version or electronically. Reading a book online is quite different from the standard textbook. Many digital books have much more extensive cross-referencing, enabling students to design their movement through the content. Today's learners who move among information sources in a nonlinear way find electronically resourced materials to be essential.

Digital books have become an option in some sections of the required Nursing courses, including microbiology, chemistry, English, psychology and sociology. Faculty are using textbooks with options for CD and direct Internet access.

At the same time, WebCT, the course management system that Villanova uses, provides students with access to faculty-generated content, Internet links and a variety of audiovisual materials that are foundational to learning nursing skills. Our learners access this content through their computers but in some instances it could be downloaded to an iPod or other device. Podcasting, while not yet a focus in nursing, is a medium through which other content is being provided to students, for instance, by some nursing textbook publishers.

Our faculty are using the multimedia Virtual Hospital library resources to simulate the clinical

setting and decision making. As in ages past, Nursing students are still required to write papers and other work such as nursing care plans, but now they produce and send these assignments electronically to faculty members to assess. Faculty, too, have more digital tools to assist students and respond to their work.

The course management systems have provided opportunities for learners to be engaged in synchronous and asynchronous interactions beyond the classroom. The number and variety of electronic tools are being matched to the objectives of the courses and the needs of learners. In every case, it is the computer—the hardware and software—that is facilitating active learning.

While most undergraduates are enrolled in classes on campus, these digital tools make it possible to teach beyond our own physical site. Electronic library resources are available 24/7. Learning takes place inside and outside the typical classroom. Using their computers, students easily can engage in group assignments for a course; they share documents, add their comments and refine the materials, all done outside of class. Our students use their laptops daily. Many bring them to class to type in notes. Next year, for many Nursing courses, the computer will be an essential element in proctored online testing.

This year, the laptop comes with a keychain flash drive rather than a 3.5-inch floppy drive, and a computer "sleeve" rather than a backpack. Students have access to on-campus tech support via telephone and to on-campus equipment repair at the TechZone in Vasey Hall.

For some classes, our undergraduates bring in their PowerPoint presentations on flash drives, then display them on a screen in front of

the classroom. In other cases, they can upload their assignments to a data storage space, and then open their files in the classroom setting.

Even before the undergraduate laptop program began in 2006, the College had developed "virtual" experience through its distance-based Ph.D. Program in Nursing. These students use laptops with a camera and specialized software to see one another and faculty and interact during the online sessions.



In a class taught by Marcia Costello, Ph.D., R.D., assistant professor of Nursing, a few keystrokes link students to a wealth of resources.

Beyond the classroom, the digital world is moving very quickly. In the last year, Nursing faculty members have become much more aware of the social networking dimensions of the Internet. While some may ask if there are reasons to use "blogs," "wikis" (for working collaboratively on Web pages) or "twitters" (microblogs), the most important question is, Why is it so vital to use the cyberinfrastructure in nursing education today? The answer is that these computer networks provide learners and practitioners with access to the experts, interactive virtual learning environments and a wider range of information. Via cyberspace, the professional networks that our students become so adept at using can take them far in bringing solutions to many different areas of the world.



Runners “Dream for Eileen” and Raise Scholarship Funds

By Marcia Costello, Ph.D., R.D., Assistant Professor of Nursing

Almost 100 participants honored the memory of Eileen Shea Lupton '03 B.S.N. and supported students from the College of Nursing by participating in the fourth annual “Dream for Eileen” 5K Race at Villanova University. It took place on October 6, 2007, during Homecoming Weekend.

Lupton died in a Chicago porch collapse on June 29, 2003, just a few weeks after her graduation from Villanova. She would have begun her career as a pediatric nurse that fall.

Proceeds from the race went to the Eileen Shea Lupton Memorial Foundation. The foundation provides scholarships for nursing majors in their third year of college who are in financial need. The foundation has raised more than \$250,000 and presented generous scholarships to four students.

“Having nurses is critical,” said J. Patrick Lupton, Eileen’s father. He and his wife, Therese, traveled from Chicago to honor their daughter’s memory. He serves on the College of Nursing’s Board of Consultants.

At 10 a.m., a few minutes before the race, participants of all ages stretched at the starting line at Bartley Hall, near the construction site for the new College of Nursing building. The starting line was marked by blue-and-white balloons. Those gathered listened to Patrick Lupton’s words of gratitude and inspiration.

The runners wove through the campus in the sunny 85-degree weather and finished back at the starting point.

“I was told about the race last night,” said Chris Klobendanz, a freshman engineering major who took first place for males.

The support of members of the Villanova Nursing community was evident not only in their promotion of the race but also in their personal testimonies.

“The Nursing community is really close,” said Kate Walsh, a Nursing junior from Lake Forest, Ill., the Luptons’ hometown. Walsh, who chaired the “Dream for Eileen” run this year, has a special closeness to this event because Eileen Lupton was her babysitter for several years. Walsh describes her as having been a good friend, mentor and just like a big sister. Walsh and Lillian Perry, a Nursing sophomore, were determined to have a significant turnout for this important event. They were successful in achieving this goal and raised more than \$1,000 for the nursing scholarship.

Ali Finnegan '03 B.S.N., who was Lupton’s roommate at Villanova, noted that she and others “started a committee in New York to raise money in Eileen’s honor. We raised \$20,000 the first year.” Lupton was very involved in the College of Nursing, according to Finnegan. The Daniel M. and Christine A. Finnegan Endowed Nursing Scholarship and The Eileen Shea Lupton Endowed Memorial Scholarship are awarded in Lupton’s memory.

As part of the Health Promotion and Community Health Nursing clinical course, Lupton had taught health to pupils at the Alcorn School in inner-city Philadelphia. “Eileen was extraordinary,” recalled Dr. Carol Toussie Weingarten, R.N., an associate professor of Nursing and Lupton’s former teacher. “Creative, caring, intelligent and effective—she was respected and loved by the children and everyone else who worked with her,” she added.

As Patrick Lupton observed, “The nursing community is keeping Eileen’s spirit alive by helping one of their own.”

Donations may be made to Villanova University with specific designation to the Eileen Shea Lupton Memorial Scholarship.

“The nursing community is keeping Eileen’s spirit alive by helping one of their own.”

—J. Patrick Lupton, father of Eileen Shea Lupton '03 B.S.N.,
in whose memory the annual race is run



Pleased with the turnout for the “Dream for Eileen” race were (from left) Rose O’Driscoll '64 B.S.N., M.S.N., R.N., assistant dean for administration and assistant professor of Nursing; Kate Walsh, a Nursing junior who chaired this year’s event; J. Patrick Lupton, Eileen’s father; and Lillian Perry, a Nursing sophomore who also helped make the race a success.



Ambassador Grappo Affirms the Pivotal U.S.-Omani Partnership



Gary A. Grappo (center), the U.S. ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman, greets the College of Nursing's Omani students and several of the other people who came to his lecture on October 9, 2007.

A career diplomat, Grappo discussed the critical role Oman plans in the broader Middle East, particularly through its highly cooperative relationship with the United States. He said he was particularly proud to visit the College because of its educational partnership with Oman's Ministry of Health. His talk was sponsored by the College of Nursing, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Villanova University's Center for Arab and Islamic Studies and Nursing's Omani Student Association.

Students Honored with Scholarships during Parents' Weekend

The College of Nursing held a brunch during Parents' Weekend last fall for its scholarship recipients and invited guests. The following scholarships were awarded on September 15, 2007, at the Villanova Conference Center.

The Robert and Frances Capone Scholarship

Ann E. Donnelly, senior

The Jill Laura Creedon Scholarship for Nursing

Danielle Cichowic, senior

The Frances Farrell D'Ambrisi Endowed Nursing Scholarship

Adriane Weigand, freshman

The Eastwood Family Scholarship

Danielle T. Sammartino, junior

Margaret S. & Jeremiah J. Enright Memorial Scholarship

Irene Cheng, junior
Christin Guest, senior

The Daniel M. and Christine A. Finnegan Endowed Nursing Scholarship in Memory of Eileen S. Lupton, Class of 2003

Erica Della Polla, sophomore

Mary Alice Holland Scholarship

Dina Bammer, senior



Among the College of Nursing students honored at the brunch last September were (from left) Caitlin Ward, Elizabeth Witte, Erica Della Polla, Adriane Weigand, Irene Cheng, Sarah Klein-Harris, Serena Hong, Melissa Perez, Dina Bammer, Christin Guest, Danielle Cichowic and Ann E. Donnelly. Not pictured: Danielle T. Sammartino.

The Kreider Family Endowed Nursing Scholarship

Melissa Perez, junior

The Eileen Shea Lupton Endowed Memorial Scholarship

Sarah Klein-Harris, junior

The Mother Teresa Endowed Nursing Scholarship Established by Peter and Colleen Schleider in Memory of Richard and Ellen Wright

Elizabeth Witte, freshman

The Mary V. O'Donnell Endowed Nursing Scholarship

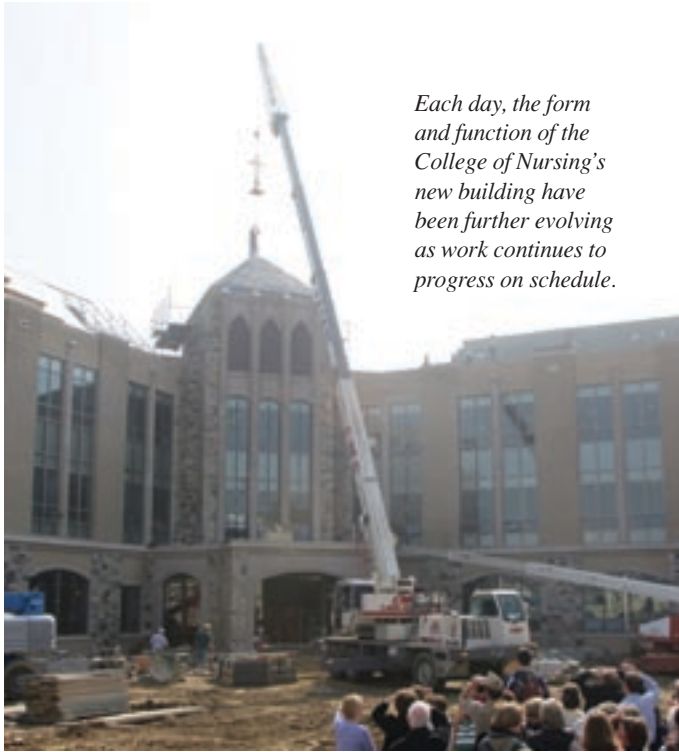
Serena Hong, sophomore

Col. Julia B. Paparella and Dr. Benedict A. Paparella Endowed Scholarship for Nursing

Caitlin Ward, junior

Later in the fall, the Jannetti Publications MedSurg Nursing Scholarship was awarded to Lisa Willis, R.N.

College Plans to Move into New Building This Summer



Each day, the form and function of the College of Nursing's new building have been further evolving as work continues to progress on schedule.

A great new structure arising from the campus terrain greets members of the Villanova University community and visitors as they enter the campus via the main gate. Since groundbreaking on April 10, 2007, this 75,500-square-foot facility for the College of Nursing has been rising out of the ground. Its appearance and size can now be fully appreciated. The new building

will enhance the main entrance to Villanova's beautiful campus and give the College a central location.

The steel structure was completed in September 2007, followed by pouring the concrete for the floors and framing out the rooms at each level. The stone and brick on the exterior will create a beautiful façade that will complement other buildings on campus. The decorative arches on the front give the building its distinctive and graceful look. Its mansard roof was completed at the end of February, and windows have been installed. By early March, the building was completely enclosed, which allowed work on the interior to progress quickly.

During summer and fall 2007, the College's faculty and administrators had the opportunity to review and participate in the selection of interior design elements, such as wall colors, carpeting, flooring and furniture. State-of-the-art equipment for clinical skills, as well as equipment and audiovisual systems for the simulation laboratories and classrooms, conference rooms and seminar rooms, have been selected and will be installed this spring. The equipment and audiovisual systems will allow for enhanced and interactive student learning, and the new facility will be wireless.

In addition to offering state-of-the-art classroom and laboratory facilities, the building has a 200-seat auditorium, a 200-seat lecture hall, faculty and student organization offices and a small chapel. It will be the first LEED-certified "green" (environmentally friendly) building at Villanova. To provide a welcoming entrance to the College of Nursing, various shrubs, trees and pavers will be planted around the exterior and there will be benches.

Completion is scheduled for July. The College is planning to move from St. Mary Hall this summer, in time for the beginning of the academic year.

We want to thank those of you who have contributed financial support to the internal and external enhancements and the important lab and lecture equipment. If you are interested in contributing to the Building Enhancement Fund, there is a list of opportunities and contact information on page 19.

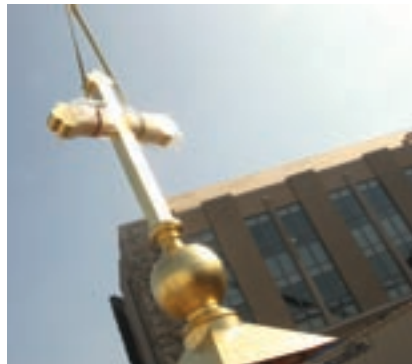
The Blessing and Raising of the Cross

The Villanova University community applauded as the cross for the roof of the new College of Nursing building was blessed and raised on April 10. The cross, just over 7 feet tall, weighs

approximately 150 pounds and is copper with gold leaf. Its design mirrors the style of the crosses topping the two spires of the St. Thomas of Villanova Church, a Villanova University landmark visible for miles.

Within minutes, construction workers had the cross moving high overhead and settled on its permanent home atop the 70-foot tower in the center of the new building.

(Above right) Marie and Robert J. Fitzmyer '50 M.E., who donated the cross, joined M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, and the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., '75 A&S, University president.



PIOLA NOGUERAS (ALL)

Special Opportunities to Support the Building Enhancement Fund

There are many ways to support the College and the advancement of its future. Your contributions to the Building Enhancement Fund in general, as well as to the special opportunities listed below, are most welcome.

Outdoor Opportunities

Statues (2)	\$80,000 each		
Crucifix (1st Floor)		RESERVED	
Courtyard Garden Wall		RESERVED	
Small Pavers (12" x 12") (125)	\$750 each	23 RESERVED	
Large Pavers (12" x 18") (80)	\$1,000 each	56 RESERVED	
Trees (44)	\$1,000 each	27 RESERVED	
Stone Benches (4)	\$2,500 each	RESERVED	
Teak Benches (6)	\$1,000 each	RESERVED	

Pavers may be engraved. Other naming opportunities allow for an inscription. Sue Stein, development officer, will follow up with donors regarding specifics as required.

Administrative Spaces

Administration Suite	\$500,000
Board Room	\$300,000
Center for Nursing Research	\$300,000
Center for Global Health Studies	\$300,000
Continuing Education Suite	\$250,000
Faculty/Staff Lounge	\$100,000
Assistant Dean's Suite	\$100,000
Emeritus/Visiting Faculty Office	\$50,000
Nursing Alumni Office	RESERVED
Conference Rooms (5)	\$50,000 each 2 RESERVED

Instructional Spaces

Auditorium/Theater	\$1 million
Lecture Hall	\$500,000
Maternal/Child Simulation Lab	\$300,000
Adult Health Simulation Lab	\$300,000
ICU/Critical Care Simulation Lab	RESERVED
Tiered Classrooms— 60 seats (2)	\$250,000 each
Clinical Practice Simulation Lab (2)	\$250,000 each
Health Assessment Simulation Lab	\$250,000
Nurse Anesthesia Simulation Lab	\$250,000
Large Classroom—60 Seats (3)	\$200,000 each
Patient Simulation Rooms (2)	\$150,000 each
Medium Classroom— 50 Seats (2)	\$150,000 each
Seminar Room (2)	\$150,000 each
Standardized Patient Room (4)	\$50,000 each

Student Spaces

Café Commons—second floor	\$500,000
International Activities Room	RESERVED
Student Nursing Organizations Room	\$150,000
Graduate Study Room	\$150,000
Undergraduate Study Room	\$150,000

General Spaces

College of Nursing Building	\$10 million
Building Lobby	\$1 million
Chapel/Meditation Room	RESERVED
Lower Lobby	\$250,000
Reading and Historical Collection Room	\$250,000
Stained Glass Window	RESERVED
Cross	RESERVED
Medallion	RESERVED
Etched Lobby Partition	RESERVED

Did You Know?

Did you know that when giving to Villanova University, you can designate your gift specifically for the College of Nursing if you wish? Just write "College of Nursing" in your check memo area or on the University remittance card that comes with a solicitation, or tell the student who calls you during a Telefund that you wish to designate your gift to the College. If you would like to make a more detailed designation within the College, please include a note indicating your preference, such as a specific scholarship fund or the Building Enhancement Fund.

Nine Reasons to Join in Advancing the Future

1. to acknowledge the life-changing education you—or someone you would like to honor—received at the College of Nursing;
2. to remember a classmate;
3. to offer a tribute to faculty, family, friends and mentors;
4. to honor the nurse in your life;
5. to support the next generation of Villanova nurses;
6. to advance the College's future-oriented strategic initiatives;
7. to commend the nursing profession;
8. to demonstrate your investment in and support of nursing education at Villanova; and
9. to acknowledge the College's contributions to health care.

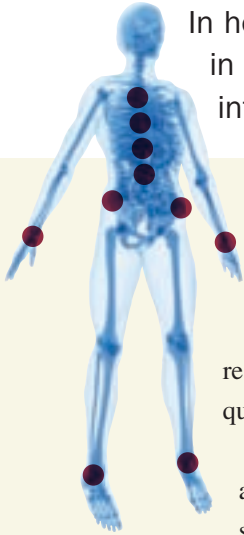
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Development officer
(610) 519-7980
e-mail: sue.stein@villanova.edu

M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN
Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor
(610) 519-4909
e-mail: louise.fitzpatrick@villanova.edu

Their mailing address is:
College of Nursing
Villanova University
800 Lancaster Ave.
Villanova, PA 19085-1690

Stronger Knowledge Means Stronger Bones



In her doctoral study of Mandarin-speaking Chinese immigrants in a Philadelphia clinic, Dr. Bing Bing Qi found that culturally appropriate information aids them in fighting osteoporosis.

For women and men, osteoporosis can be a major health problem, according to the National Osteoporosis Foundation (2002) and the National Institutes of Health (2001). It increases the risk of fractures of the hip, spine and wrist, which results in pain, deformity, disability, costly rehabilitation, poor quality of life and even premature death.

Asians have as high a rate of osteoporosis as Caucasians, even after controlling for body mass index (BMI), epidemiological studies have consistently found. There is also evidence that bone mineral density (BMD) is lower among Asian women and men who emigrated to America later in life than among those who were born in the United States (Babbar *et al.*, 2006; Siris *et al.*, 2001; Lauderdale *et al.*, 2003).

Chinese people, particularly recent immigrants living in Chinatowns around the country who have low educational attainment and were older than 65 years of age at the time of immigration, have been found to have a low BMD and to be at a great risk for developing osteoporosis (Lauderdale, *et al.*, 2003; Babbar *et al.*, 2006). This is believed to be a result of a traditional Chinese diet that is low in calcium, as well as a decrease in physical activity.

At a clinic in Philadelphia, many of the patients are uninsured, undocumented, non-English-speaking Asian immigrants. They come here to receive free primary health care, rudimentary screening and referrals. After studying this population, Bing Bing Qi '94 M.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., now assistant professor in the College of Nursing, found that these Chinese immigrants shared something else in common: They were a high-risk population for developing osteoporosis.

At the University of Maryland, Dr. Qi devoted her doctoral dissertation to learning more about this critical health issue among Asians. She graduated with her Ph.D. last spring and then in August joined the College of Nursing faculty full-time. She had been an adjunct faculty member since 2004. A native of Beijing China, she earned her B.S.N. at Beijing Medical University and worked for a



Bing Bing Qi '94 M.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor of Nursing, was born and raised in Beijing, China, and began her nursing studies and career there as well.

few years at Beijing Medical Center as a staff nurse and clinical instructor. She then came to Villanova University to obtain her M.S.N.

Previous studies, Dr. Qi explained, "have demonstrated the benefit of lifestyle modification in increasing bone mineral density, consequently reducing the incidence of osteoporosis. The importance of educational interventions designed for osteoporosis prevention to promote lifestyle changes is widely acknowledged. Unfortunately, although the benefits of these lifestyle modifications are

clear, it is difficult to initiate exercise activity and use of supplements in older adults. There is considerable evidence that the majority of Chinese men and women of all ages have inadequate information about their risks for developing osteoporosis and are seldom involved in preventive activities."

Dr. Qi communicated with her study group in Mandarin, since about 84 percent did not speak English at all, or knew only a little. She noted that her study was "the first self-efficacy-based intervention study targeted to the middle-aged and elderly Mandarin-speaking immigrant women and men of a vulnerable and inaccessible population in the United States. Many who emigrated at an older age may have had poor childhood nutrition and have thin body structures. They have difficulty accessing medical care because of finances, lack of insurance or language barriers. Such factors have also contributed to their previous lack of sufficient attention from researchers or policymakers."

Asians have multiple risk factors for osteoporosis, Dr. Qi explained. "Lower dietary calcium and vitamin D content than the average Western diet is a unique feature of the traditional Chinese diet," she stated. About one-fifth of her study group were lactose-intolerant. She noted, "Milk just is not their regular food; the majority of them thought one serving was plenty." She found that "The native Chinese population has a relatively high level of physical activity, but when Chinese come to the United States, their physical activity levels decrease significantly. Survey data also indicated that, because of time constraints, most Chinese-Americans do not exercise at all outside of work. Moreover, among those who regularly exercise, 80 percent do not meet the recommended levels of activity for osteoporosis prevention," she said, citing the Centers for Disease Control.

The prevalence of osteoporosis in Asians is comparable to that found in Caucasians, even after controlling for many factors, including body mass index (BMI). The risk factors for osteoporosis in Asians were found to be similar to those in Americans, but as Dr. Qi noted, there are far fewer lifestyle modification programs provided to Asian immigrants than to Caucasians.

Studying a population at greater risk for osteoporosis

Dr. Qi's study sample consisted of 81 females (73.6 percent) and 29 males (26.4 percent). The majority were female and married, with a mean age of 64 years and an annual household income of less than \$20,000. Half of them had a secondary school or lower level of education. Almost three-fourths (72 percent) reported poor or fair health conditions. Slightly less than half (41.5 percent) had no health insurance. In general, they had small body frames and low BMI. The majority spoke little or no English, and 56 percent had lived in the United States for more than 10 years. The mean age at immigration was 51 years.

Therefore, in addition to high-risk factors such as poor diet and lack of exercise, the study population also was primarily of low income, lower education level and poor-to-fair health status, creating an even greater risk for the disease.

Other characteristics of the Chinese immigrants she studied included the following:

- All but three of the 81 females had gone through menopause, seven of them before age 45.
- More than half (61.4 percent) reported they drank milk; however, 90.4 percent reported they ate less than two servings of dairy products per day.
- 43.4 percent weighed less than 127 pounds.
- 16.9 percent reported a family history of fracture and 23.2 percent had experienced at least one fracture.
- 26.5 percent reported they had lost 3 centimeters in height.
- Based on the bone mineral density (BMD) screening, 22.9 percent had moderate risk and 42.2 percent had high risk for developing osteoporosis.

In summary, the majority of her sample of Chinese immigrants were at a very high risk for developing osteoporosis and were lacking with respect to practicing preventive behaviors.

Her findings also showed several factors that significantly correlated with calcareous BMD. The Mandarin-speaking Chinese immigrants who were older, had lived in the United States for a shorter time, were older at the time of immigration and had poor English-speaking skills had lower BMDs. Other characteristics associated with lower BMD included lower income and poor self-rated health. These results



BRUCE ANDERSON/WIKIPEDIA COMMONS

In Philadelphia's Center City, the ornate friendship gate built by artisans in China marks the entrance to Chinatown at 10th and Arch streets.

were consistent with previous study findings of Babbar *et al.* (2006) and Lauderdale *et al.* (2003).

How an educational intervention proved to be useful

Dr. Qi wanted to examine the effectiveness of a self-efficacy and outcome expectations enhanced osteoporosis preventive educational intervention (SEOPE) designed for Chinese immigrants of both genders, age 45 and older and living in the United States. Her study's primary aims were to increase the participants' understanding of osteoporosis, and to increase their self-efficacy and outcome expectations related to exercise and the use of calcium, vitamin D supplements and other osteoporosis medications. Her secondary aims focused on increasing the adoption of osteoporosis preventive behaviors, including regular exercise and taking calcium, vitamin D supplements and other osteoporosis medication.

After obtaining participants' consent, she assigned them randomly to two groups. One group would receive the educational intervention, and the other group would receive an attention control. Dr. Qi collected data at the baseline (before the intervention) and then two weeks after. The BMD screening was done after the baseline data were collected and before the intervention.

The educational intervention group received SEOPE structured around the four sources of self-efficacy and outcome expectations. This

group had a one-hour group PowerPoint presentation and discussion, and received copies of individualized educational materials. The SEOPE program was based on the theory of self-efficacy and prior research testing interventions to improve adherence to osteoporosis prevention and exercise with middle-aged and older adults. She incorporated into the intervention some elements of this self-efficacy construct, which other experimental manipulations have shown to enhance self-efficacy, outcome expectations and positive health behaviors.

Participants in the second group received an attention control—a one-hour PowerPoint health promotion education class titled "Enhance the Health of Cardiovascular System and Maintain Your Brain." The class focused on general information about cardiovascular and cerebral vascular diseases, including Alzheimer's disease.

Prior to the intervention, these Chinese immigrants had a low level of knowledge of osteoporosis prevention. They had moderate levels of confidence about exercise and osteoporosis medication. Culturally, it is not surprising that they expressed a strong belief in the benefit of exercise and nutritional supplements: 61.4 percent exercised regularly (at least three times a week, 20 to 30 minutes each time). Of the study participants, 47 percent were taking calcium and vitamin D supplements and 12.5 percent were taking bone-building medications.

Participants who received the intervention had statistically significant improvement two weeks later with respect to their osteoporosis-related knowledge and self-efficacy for exercise and osteoporosis medication adherence. Moreover, compared with the control group, two weeks later they exhibited statistically significant exercise behaviors measured by total time spent on moderate exercise and energy expenditure on exercise. In addition, they exhibited statistically significant more osteoporosis medication use.

The SEOPE intervention targeting Mandarin-speaking immigrants was effective in increasing their knowledge related to osteoporosis and improving their adoption of preventive behaviors related to exercise and medication adherence, Dr. Qi reported. This supported the value of self-efficacy theory as a theoretical basis for interventions to change behavior among mid-life and older adults with ethnic Chinese backgrounds.

Applying self-efficacy theory to other cultural perspectives

In general, there has been little research on the impact of outcome expectations related to exercise and medication adherence as it impacts osteoporosis prevention. Outcome expectations were generally high in this population, as might be expected based on Chinese cultural ideologies.

Dr. Qi's findings may contribute to translating self-efficacy theory to other cultural perspectives. She noted, "The use of Chinese versions of the self-efficacy and outcome expectations questionnaires related to exercise behavior and medication adherence may add to the list of established self-efficacy measures and to the study of the effectiveness of self-efficacy and outcome expectations related to osteoporosis preventions specifically for Mandarin-speaking populations. This is an important contribution, as lack of instruments applicable to Mandarin-speaking immigrants has impeded research to date."

She added that "The dissemination of the research findings based upon this population at high risk for osteoporosis may lead to more culturally sensitive, language-appropriate, individualized care from health-care providers, and may help direct more resources to indigent Chinese-American populations. Exploring underlying cultural meanings may help direct appropriate interventions and strategies by health-care professionals to promote and enhance health and well-being in diverse, multicultural populations in the United States and elsewhere."

Teaching what she learned

In her sophomore courses at the College of Nursing, Dr. Qi plans to integrate what she

learned from her doctoral study. "This research experience of focusing on a poor and hard-to-reach ethnic population may help students to be aware that innovative and culturally appropriate, community-based intervention programs are critical for eliminating racial and ethnic disparities in health," she observed.

One of Dr. Qi's goals is to conduct osteoporosis and self-efficacy research in her homeland of China and to have the opportunity to apply her findings to a similar study design there.

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Faculty Share Expertise in Austria, England, Oman and Japan

In Vienna, Austria, **Angelina Arcamone '82 B.S.N., '86 M.S.N., D.N.Sc., R.N., CCE** and **Linda Carman Copel, Ph.D., APRN, BC, NCC, DAPA** took part in Sigma Theta Tau International's 18th International Research Congress: Focusing on Evidence-Based Practice. Dr. Arcamone, clinical assistant professor and coordinator of clinical education, presented a paper, "Nursing Management of Postpartum Perineal Pain: Evidence for Practice." Dr. Copel, associate professor, coordinated and presented the research symposium "Abuse in the Family: Proximal and Distal Effects." The congress took place July 11-14, 2007.

Elizabeth Blunt, Ph.D., M.S.N., APRN, BC, assistant professor and coordinator of the Nurse Practitioner Program, attended the 21st Annual Royal College of Nursing Nurse



Practitioner Association Annual Conference and Exhibition, which took place September 7-8, 2007, in Daventry, Northamptonshire, England. She presented two lectures: "Pharmaceutical Company Influence on NP Prescribing" and

"The Heart Truth Dissemination Project: Women and Heart Disease Materials."

Kathy Gray-Siracusa, Ph.D., R.N., M. B.A., CNA, CCRN, assistant professor, gave a three-day workshop last June in the Sultanate of Oman on "Evaluating Effectiveness and Impact of Continuing Education Programs in the Clinical Setting." The program was designed to increase the knowledge of new continuing education (CE) providers and serve as a review for experienced educators. Dr. Gray-Siracusa presented concepts in planning, delivery and management of CE activities to the 66 participants, among them representatives of health professional groups, senior physicians, ancillary health-care staff leaders and continuing professional development nurses. She returned in March with **Isabella Erickson, Ph.D., R.N.**, assistant professor, to present a

Highlights

Transitions



Angelina Arcamone '82 B.S.N., '86 M.S.N., D.N.Sc., R.N., CCE in June 2007 joined the College of Nursing as clinical assistant professor and coordinator of clinical education. She orients, develops

and evaluates adjunct clinical faculty and also is the key liaison between the College and its clinical agencies.

A certified childbirth educator, Dr. Arcamone has extensive experience in maternal-child health, as well as in nursing higher education, where she has been recognized for excellence in teaching. Her background includes 10 years at Thomas Jefferson School of Nursing as an assistant professor and coordinator of maternal-child health. She also has an interest in leadership and management in nursing. Her research areas include prenatal and postpartum issues and leadership competencies in baccalaureate nursing graduates.

She received her diploma in nursing from the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, her B.S.N. and M.S.N. from Villanova and her doctoral degree from Widener University with a focus on higher

second three-day workshop on "Measurement and Evaluation for Health Professions Educators."

Two faculty members shared their expertise at the International Council of Nurses Conference, which took place in Yokohama, Japan, from May 27 to June 2, 2007. **Patricia Haynor, D.N.Sc., R.N., NHA**, associate professor, presented "Strategies to Enhance Nurse Manager Knowledge Transference to Practice." She reported on experiences in teaching in nurse manager seminars in Barcelona, Spain; the Sultanate of Oman; and the United States. **Suzanne C. Smeltzer, Ed.D., FAAN**, professor and director of the Center for Nursing Research, presented "Disability: An International Concern for Nursing and Nursing Education," as well as "Osteoporosis in Women with Physical Disabilities."

education theory. From 1989 to 1994, she was an instructor at the College of Nursing.

Margaret "Peggy" Lyons '87 B.S.N., M.S.N., R.N. last September joined the College as program coordinator in Continuing Education (CE). She is responsible for developing distance learning modules for nurses seeking CE. After graduating from Villanova, Lyons earned her M.S.N. at the University of Pennsylvania. Previously she was an adjunct faculty clinical instructor at the Thomas Jefferson School of Nursing in Philadelphia and a home infusion nurse for Jefferson Home Infusion Service. She has multiple ties to Villanova. Not only is she an alumna but her great-grandfather, Joseph Burke, who composed many popular songs, wrote the score for Villanova's "Alma Mater" while a pre-med student in the 1930s.

Elizabeth Petit de Mange, Ph.D., R.N. joined the faculty last August as an assistant professor. She teaches undergraduate courses in community health, introduction to nursing and physical assessment. Her 30-year

nursing career includes a clinical focus on health issues and community health needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives; health-care needs of the homeless; cultural competency of nurses; and maternal child health, specifically with underserved pediatric populations. She has worked at the Kayenta Service Unit on the Navajo Reservation in Kayenta, Ariz. The unit is one of the eight federal Indian Health Service Units for the Navajo Nation.

Dr. Petit de Mange began her nursing education at Gloucester County Community College in New Jersey, where she earned an associate degree. She was awarded her B.S.N. from Thomas Jefferson University, a master's degree in nursing administration from Widener University and a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado. In May 2007, she completed a Post Master Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate Program at Wilmington College.



Her research program focuses on health disparities and she has published in this area. She is an active member of the American Public Health Association, Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. She is recognized for her expertise in the online nursing curriculum.

Bing Bing Qi '94 M.S.N., Ph.D., R.N.,

an adjunct faculty member since 2004, last August joined the full-time faculty as an assistant professor. She was awarded her doctorate in nursing from the University of Maryland in 2007. Her doctoral dissertation research (see page 20) concerned osteoporosis prevention in Chinese immigrants. She plans to conduct further research in health promotion among Asians and is very interested in sharing her expertise in culture and health behaviors with her students.

Dr. Qi earned her B.S.N. from Beijing Medical University and her M.S.N. from Villanova. Prior to her return to the United States for doctoral study, she taught at her alma mater in Beijing.

Kathryn Moriarty Reynolds '79 B.S.N., M.S.N., R.N., CPNP

is a visiting clinical instructor. She is well-known at the College, as a pediatric clinical instructor. An acknowledged expert in her field, she has more than 26 years of experience, including as a pediatric nurse practitioner in a local school district, as an in-patient pediatric clinical nurse specialist and in pediatric home care. She currently practices as a pediatric nurse practitioner in a migrant worker health clinic.

Reynolds earned her B.S.N. at Villanova and her M.S.N. at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing.



Publications

Mary Ann Cantrell '89 M.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., CS, associate professor, published "Methodological Issues in Online Data Collection," with P. Lupinacci in *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 60 (5), 544-549.

Lynore DeSilets, Ed.D., R.N., B.C., assistant professor, assistant dean and director of the Continuing Education in Nursing and Health Care Program, published "Needs Assessment" (Administrative Angles column), in the *Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing, Continuing Competence for the Future*, 37 (4), 148-149.



Elizabeth Burgess Dowdell, Ph.D., R.N., CRNP, associate professor, published an invited commentary, "Nursing Implications for Working with Grandmother Caregivers Who Are in Transition," in the

Western Journal of Nursing Research, 29 (5), 634-636.

Gale Robinson-Smith, Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor, published with co-author J.D. Grill "Recognizing Involuntary Emotional Expression Disorder" in the *Journal of Neuroscience Nursing*, 39 (4), August 2007, 202-207.



This article is one of two CE articles in the issue.

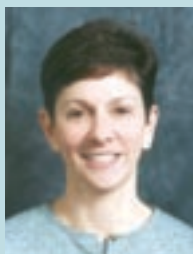
Suzanne C. Smeltzer, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, professor and director of the Center for Nursing Research, published the article "Improving Health and Wellness of Persons with Disabilities: A Call to Action Too Important for Nursing to Ignore," in *Nursing Outlook*, 55 (4), 189-195. She also co-authored "Perspectives of Women with Disabilities on Reaching Those Who Are Hard to Reach" in the *Journal of Neuroscience Nursing*, 39 (3), 163-171, with **Nancy C. Sharts-Hopko, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN**, professor and director of the Nursing Doctoral Program; **Barbara B. Ott, Ph.D., R.N.**, associate professor; **Vanessa Zimmerman '98 M.S.N., R.N.**; and **Janice Duffin '01 M.S.N., R.N., CCM**.

Leadership and Achievements

Angelina Arcamone '82 B.S.N., '86 M.S.N., D.N.Sc., R.N., CCE, clinical assistant professor and coordinator of clinical education, presented "Satisfaction with the Childbirth Experience: Does Attendance at Prepared Childbirth Classes Make a Difference in Primiparous Women?" at Sigma Theta Tau International's 39th Biennial Convention,

which took place in Baltimore last November. At the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's Baccalaureate Education Conference in New Orleans last November, she presented a paper on "Who Is Mentoring the Part-time Faculty? Exploring the Role of Clinical Coordinator in Baccalaureate Nursing Education."

Mary Ann Cantrell '89 M.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., CS, associate professor, presented "Using the Internet in Delivering a Nursing Intervention to Build Hope" at Sigma Theta Tau International's 39th Biennial Convention, which took place in Baltimore last November.



Linda Carman Copel, Ph.D., APRN, BC, NCC, DAPA, associate professor, has been awarded the designation of Fellow of the American College of Forensic Examiners Institute (ACFEI). The ACFEI recognizes experience, education and expertise of individuals engaged in forensic examinations and multi-disciplinary training in their respective fields. Dr. Copel was nominated because of her work with women who may or may not have disabilities and who experience intimate partner violence. Dr. Copel presented her research study, "Verbal Abuse: A Red Flag for Women with Disabilities," at the 21st American Psychiatric Nurses Association Conference, held in Kissimmee, Fla., last October. She is now a National League for Nursing certified nurse educator.

Christine Crumlish '74 B.S.N., Ph.D. and **Catherine Todd Magel, Ed.D., R.N., BC**, both assistant professors, presented "Heart Attack Response Rehearsal in High Risk Patients" at Sigma Theta Tau International's 39th Biennial Convention, which took place in Baltimore last November.

Elizabeth Burgess Dowdell, Ph.D., R.N., CRNP, associate professor, along with fellow research team colleagues at collaborating institutions, in October 2007 received a two-year, \$1 million grant to study "A Multipronged Approach to Child Internet Safety." The study—a joint effort among the Boston-based Justice Resource Institute,

Boston College and Villanova University—is funded by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Dr. Dowdell will be surveying suburban public and nonpublic high school students to ascertain if their health risks parallel their Internet risks. With a grant from the College of Nursing's Center for Nursing Research, she has been conducting focus groups with high school students to refine a questionnaire and to gather further data about risk-taking behaviors.

Marilyn Fetter, Ph.D., R.N. and **Marita Frain '69 B.S.N., Ed.M.**, both assistant professors, have been selected as Health Information Technology Scholars (HITS). This program is funded by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration's Faculty Development: Integrated Technology into Nursing Education and Practice Initiative. For this program, 49 scholars were selected from among more than 500 applicants. The program's purposes are to facilitate nurse educators' creation of an environment that merges informatics, telehealth, simulation and e-learning; to assist faculty in the integration of IT into curricula to educate future practitioners; to expand the infrastructure for clinical learning processes; to educate a cadre of well-informed faculty who focus on real-world applications of technologies in their education practices; and to optimize patient safety and health-care quality.

M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, has accepted reappointment to the Mercy Health System Board of Trustees and Mercy Diversified Services Board of Directors. The reappointment is for three years. Mercy Health is headquartered in Conshohocken, Pa.

Colleen Meakim '84 M.S.N., R.N., director of the Learning Resource Center, received the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL) Award for Excellence in the Academic Setting. Meakim received the award at INACSL's seventh National Conference on Nursing Skills Laboratories, which took place in San Antonio, Texas, last June.

Gale Robinson-Smith, Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor, presented a lecture on "Single-System Designs and How They Contribute to Evidence-Based Practice" at the 21st American Psychiatric Nurses Association Conference, held in Kissimmee, Fla., last October.

Marguerite K. Schlag '68 B.S.N., Ed.D., R.N., assistant dean, director of the Graduate Nursing Program and associate professor, was

Three Distinguished Decades

The College of Nursing hosted a surprise party on February 27 to celebrate the 30-year tenure of M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor (front row, on the left). Faculty and staff gathered for the evening celebration in the Montrose Mansion at the Villanova Conference Center.



PAOLA NOGUERAS



awarded the American Cancer Society's National Volunteer Leadership Award in recognition of her "long and exemplary volunteer service" in fighting cancer. The award was presented by the national volunteer Board of Directors during its annual meeting, which took place in Atlanta last October.

Nancy Sharts-Hopko, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, professor and director of the Nursing Doctoral Program, in September 2007 spoke on "Preparing Teacher-Scholars in Nursing" at the National League for Nursing Education Summit in Phoenix, Ariz. On November, 16, 2007, she presented the keynote lecture, "Evidence-based Practice in Pediatric Surgical and Trauma Nursing: Finding the Whys for the Whats," at the fifth annual Pediatric Surgical and Trauma Nursing Conference at

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Dr. Sharts-Hopko was also elected to the Sigma Theta Tau Leadership Succession Committee and elected as treasurer for a four-year term on the board of the Sigma Theta Tau International Foundation for Nursing.

Suzanne C. Smeltzer, Ed.D., FAAN, professor and director of the Center for Nursing Research, shared a 2007 *American Journal of Nursing* Book of the Year Award for the *Textbook of Medical-Surgical Nursing*, which she co-authored with Brenda G. Bare, Dr. Janice L. Hinkle and Dr. Kerry H. Cheever.

Kimberly K. Trout, Ph.D., R.N., CNM, assistant professor, was interviewed about her diabetes research for an article in the October 2007 *Diabetes Forecast*. She was quoted regarding hormonal and pregnancy issues for women with diabetes. Dr. Trout was elected last fall to the Cabinet on Nursing Practice and Professional Development of the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association (PNSA).

Bette Wildgust, M.S., '97 M.S.N., CRNA, clinical associate professor and director of the Villanova University Crozer-Chester Medical Center School of Nurse Anesthesia, was awarded the Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists (PANA) Program Director of the Year Award at the 2007 PANA Fall Symposium and Business Meeting, which took place last October in Philadelphia. Her students nominated her for this award, which recognizes the commitment of individuals to the profession of nurse anesthesia and to the advancement of educational standards that further the art and science of anesthesiology and result in better patient care. The individual must have made innovative contributions to nurse anesthesia programs, be recognized as a role model and mentor for students and CRNAs, be recognized as a leader in nurse anesthesia education and have served as a liaison to promote the profession to the public.

Medallions Presented to Three Alumnae for Achievement, Clinical Excellence and Service

The College of Nursing on April 5 honored three distinguished alumnae with its highest award, the College of Nursing Medallion. M. Louise Fitzpatrick Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, presented the medallions at the 19th Annual Mass and Alumni Awards Ceremony, which took place in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church. The event is co-sponsored by the College and its Nursing Alumni Society.

PAOLA NOGUERAS (ALL)



Claire A. Baldwin '86 M.S.N.
Medallion for Distinguished Achievement in Nursing and Healthcare Administration

For the last eight years, Claire Baldwin '86 M.S.N. has served in one of the most demanding positions in any health-care facility: vice president for patient care services. In her attitude and practice, she demonstrates the philosophy of community care. At Bryn Mawr Hospital, part of the Main Line Health System, Baldwin is responsible for the Emergency Department's administrative and managerial functions, for all of the hospital's nursing services and for the administration of the Pharmacy and Cardiac Catheterization Lab.

Baldwin's ability to manage complex departments and diverse groups developed early on when she was a staff nurse and clinical instructor in Massachusetts and New York. Since 1984, when she began to work at the hospital in Bryn Mawr, Pa., she has progressed through nearly 25 years of service there. Both the cost and quality of patient care depend on Baldwin's skill, her understanding of patient needs, the medical priorities and the importance of safe care delivered in a respectful environment of high quality and reasonable cost.

Over and over, Baldwin has demonstrated her acumen as an administrator and her sensitivity and clinical knowledge as a nurse, which informs important administrative decisions. She was one of the key people at Bryn Mawr

Hospital when Main Line Health System sought, and was granted, the prestigious Magnet™ designation for nursing practice.

Baldwin has been a positive influence in the growth and development of the Main Line Health System and its leadership. Despite her administrative demands, she frequently visits patient units and the patients themselves. She is the hospital's ambassador to its neighbors who look to it for care and healing. She is the trusted colleague of its physicians, who depend on and respect her opinion. Among her colleague nurses, she is a leader who understands their challenges and their need to transition in their practice. She encourages their continuing education and is their strong voice and advocate.

Recalling her time at Villanova, Baldwin said that "Most of all I remember the people. They make it what it is." Affirming that her purpose is to serve others, she expressed her gratitude to Villanova for giving her the skills, passion and spirit that help her meet her goals.



Cynthia Blank-Reid '83 B.S.N.
Medallion for Clinical Excellence in Nursing

As the trauma clinical nurse specialist at Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia, Cynthia Blank-Reid '83 B.S.N. embodies the adage "high tech, high touch." She practices in a complex critical care environment, yet never forgets about the people. She brings clinical expertise, passion for nursing and love of patient care to the many nurses, physicians and caregivers on Temple's trauma team. They describe her as being relentless in the pursuit of excellence in patient care.

Hershock Recognized for Contributions to Nursing



Applauding the contributions to nursing of Michael H. Hershock (center), president and CEO of the Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation, are the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., '75 A&S, University president, and Dean Fitzpatrick.

The College of Nursing on April 5 gave special recognition to a member of the community, Michael H. Hershock, for his support of nursing education. During the College's 19th Annual Mass and Alumni Awards Ceremony, M. Louise Fitzpatrick Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, read a citation commending the accomplishments and contributions of Hershock, who since 2003 has served as president and chief executive officer of the Pennsylvania Higher Educa-

Her three years at Temple have built on her long career in emergency and trauma nursing. She develops, implements and coordinates the institution's trauma education programs for other hospitals, as well as for staff physicians, nurses and allied health personnel.

Extending the reach of trauma education even more broadly, she is the past president of the American Association of Neuroscience Nurses and has held leadership positions on numerous professional boards. She has presented at more than 200 local, national and international conferences and has published in many professional journals.

Blank-Reid reflects the College's mission of service and scholarly nursing practice. She has learned that in taking care of people who

have few material possessions, "There is much to be done with their souls and spirits... everyone is entitled to respect and dignity."



Judith D. Hamilton
'72 B.S.N.,
'82 M.S.N.
Medallion for Service to the Community and the College of Nursing

With competence and quiet resolve, each day Judith Hamilton '72 B.S.N., '82 M.S.N. demonstrates her commitment to her alma mater's

mission and the people who benefit from her clinical expertise. The medallion recognizes her ongoing volunteering efforts that reach over and above her daily work as a family nurse practitioner with Virtua Family Health Care in Camden, N.J.

Without fail, every Tuesday evening, Hamilton can be found in South Philadelphia, volunteering as a family nurse practitioner at Unity Clinic. The free clinic serving an immigrant population was developed in collaboration with the College, as one of the activities of the Augustinian Defenders of the Rights of the Poor (see page 8).

When Unity Clinic opened in the summer of 2006, a call went out from the College inviting its Nurse Practitioner alumni to volunteer their time and talent. Hamilton not only responded but has maintained an almost unbroken record of service. With expertise, and in her quiet, confident manner, she serves faithfully and cares for her patients with respect, kindness and seriousness of purpose, with the goal of improving their health and quality of life.

Throughout her 35 years in nursing, Hamilton has used her education and clinical skills for the benefit of people from inner-city Camden and Philadelphia. The College of Nursing provided her with a strong education and an equally strong set of values, she said. An exemplar of the spirit of service, Hamilton noted, "I do my volunteer work...to help others...thanks is never expected."

Obstetric Nursing Expert Commended for 25 Years of Service

"A consummate professional" is how M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, described Patricia Mynaugh, Ph.D., R.N. "She holds the bar very high for herself and her students," the dean added.

At the 19th Annual Mass and Alumni Awards Ceremony on April 5, the College of Nursing honored Dr. Mynaugh, an associate professor of Nursing, for 25 years of service.

Dr. Mynaugh developed the College's maternal/child experience at a birth center on the Mexican border and also expanded care and education there. As an obstetric nursing expert, she also contributes to the College's curriculum and students.

(Right) Expanding clinical experiences for Villanova Nursing students at a birth center in Texas is one of the career highlights of Patricia Mynaugh, Ph.D., R.N., whom the College honored on April 5.



tion Foundation (PHEF). His previous career at the state level included serving as president and CEO of American Education Services/Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency from 1994 to 2002.

PHEF brings the private sector into active participation in support of students pursuing higher education. This organization identified its initial priority as scholarship support of those pursuing careers in nursing and nursing education. Partnering with Independence Blue Cross (IBC), southeastern Pennsylvania's largest health insurer, as well as with other corporations within the Commonwealth, Hershock catalyzed a program that has made a significant difference in preparing individu-

als for careers in nursing while addressing the dire shortage of nurses and nurse faculty in the Commonwealth and the nation.

Support of nursing students in basic programs, as well as at the master's and doctoral levels, IBC/PHEF has been making strides to ensure care for people who require it, as well as preparing faculty to guarantee the continuous flow of well-educated nurses into the field. Since 2003 at the College of Nursing, 234 students have received a total of \$1.3 million in scholarship assistance from IBC/PHEF. The College has benefited from clinical faculty loan programs in partnership with The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Bryn Mawr Hospital. The funds also have

made possible summer internships at IBC and clinics it supports.

Through Hershock's vision, commitment and ability to forge alliances and partnerships with the corporate world, these nursing students will improve patient care and make care more accessible. Likewise, additional expert faculty will be prepared for nursing education positions across the Commonwealth.

"Nurses are very emotionally committed to the career they have chosen," Hershock observed. "It's really a calling." He added that PHEF is proud to be able to help expand nursing education and acknowledged that the foundation's "friends at Villanova encourage us to keep going."

Alumni Award Honors Appel's Devoted Service

Mary Beth Appel '81 B.S.N., R.N., CNFP was awarded a 2007 St. Thomas of Villanova Alumni Medal during Alumni Reunion Weekend 2007 last June. The Villanova University Alumni Association recognized Appel with its highest award for her dedication to underserved people in the United States and other parts of the world. She is a family nurse practitioner in Philadelphia and actively volunteers for the College of Nursing.

Appel, who minored in religious studies at Villanova, began her nursing career in the clinical practice area of caring for disabled children and adults in urban and rural communities. That also guided her on a path of working with individuals and families with significant health needs.



The St. Thomas of Villanova Alumni Medal, awarded last June to Mary Beth Appel '81 B.S.N., R.N., CNFP, honors distinguished alumni who best symbolize the spirit and legacy of Villanova University's patron.

Early in her career, Appel realized that graduate education would further her ability to help those in need, and in 1986 she earned her master's degree in nursing from the University of Maryland. She then joined the Catholic Worker Community, a volunteer, lay faith-based intentional community co-founded by Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin in 1933. Catholic Worker communities espouse a simple life style, offer hospitality to the homeless, work for peace and justice, and practice works of mercy in a commitment to the Gospel. During this period, Appel also completed family nurse practitioner certification at the University of Virginia.

Appel returned to the Philadelphia area in 1991 to co-found, with Johanna Berrigan, also a nurse practitioner, the House of Grace Catholic Worker and the Catholic Worker Free Clinic. Located in the Kensington section of the city, the clinic offers health care to homeless, uninsured and underserved people.

The all-volunteer staff also assists people in accessing and navigating the health-care system.

In addition to practicing nursing at the clinic, Appel is a family nurse practitioner at the Albert Einstein Medical Center, where she provides outpatient primary care to adults with developmental delays.

Her volunteer activities have taken Appel throughout the United States and into Central and South America. She served in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, and in El Salvador as a member of a delegation that offered health-care to those living in rural areas. She also has accompanied Villanova Nursing faculty and seniors during their community health course clinical experiences in Nicaragua, Peru and the Dominican Republic. Appel not only is a translator and expert nurse practitioner but also a role model and mentor.



Appel (right) watches while a Villanova Nursing student checks a patient's blood pressure during a 2004 trip to Nicaragua. She frequently has accompanied students during their clinical experiences in Peru and the Dominican Republic as well.

The alumna's dedication to those in need, combined with her willingness to share her expertise with Nursing students, led to Appel's being awarded the St. Thomas of Villanova Alumni Medal. The medal is bestowed on Villanova alumni who best symbolize the spirit and legacy of St. Thomas; who have achieved a level of distinction within their chosen field or profession; and who have brought extraordinary benefit to the University and their communities.



For her continued superior performance in the U.S. Navy, Rear Adm. Christine Bruzek-Kohler '74 B.S.N., M.A., Ed.D., R.N., FACHE on July 3, 2007, was promoted to rear admiral (upper half). She serves as the 21st director of the Navy Nurse Corps and chief of staff for the Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. The Bureau is Navy Medicine's headquarters in Washington, D.C., and the site where the ceremony took place.

Rear Adm. Bruzek-Kohler is the first two-star rear admiral in the Navy Nurse Corps. She was nominated for this promotion by Dr. Robert M. Gates, secretary of Defense, and was confirmed by President George W. Bush.



Navy Rear Adm. Christine Bruzek-Kohler '74 B.S.N., M.A., Ed.D., R.N., FACHE is sworn in as rear admiral (upper half) by Vice Adm. Donald C. Arthur, M.C., U.S.N., on July 3, 2007. At the time, he was the Navy surgeon general and since then has retired.

The College of Nursing is honored to have Rear Adm. Bruzek-Kohler chair its new Board of Consultants.

She recently led a celebration of the Navy Nurse Corps Centennial. Happy anniversary to all of our Navy nurses!

Flight Nurse Saved Lives During Evacuation Missions in Iraq

For four months beginning last August, Air Force Maj. Beth Ann Lumpkin Gambill '90 B.S.N. served in south-west Asia as deputy chief of the Air Force Aero Medical Evacuation Control Team (AECT). Her two primary duties were as an aero medical evacuation controller and as a flight nurse.

On the monthly missions where she served as flight nurse, Maj. Gambill traveled throughout Iraq, dropping off and picking up patients. These missions, flown in Air Force C-130 aircraft, are titled "Faith" or "Hope." The flights, often lasting more than 16 hours, are designed to save life and limb by getting patient care when and where needed. With a lifesaving rate of more than 96 percent, these missions are considered very successful.

During her deployment, Gambill worked closely with the aero medical staff at Balad Air Base in northern Iraq. Balad's hospital

treats more trauma patients than any other U.S. emergency room. While her missions ended in Iraq, patients from that base are then transported to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany. There, the staff makes the decision on where to continue their medical treatment.

After graduating from Villanova, Gambill joined the Air Force as a direct commission and found flight nursing to be a perfect fit, according to an Air Force news release last September. Her deployment last fall was her first during 17 years serving with the Air Force. Stationed at McGuire Air Force Base near her family in New Jersey, Gambill is the deputy flight commander of plans for the 21st Air Mobility Operations Squadron.

Gambill has two daughters, ages 5 and 4, and a son who is a toddler. "I knew what I was signing up for when I joined," she is quoted as saying in the news release. "And although I miss my kids terribly, I also have



Air Force Maj. Beth Ann Gambill '90 B.S.N. stands in the Air Force C-130 Hercules used to transport patients during the monthly aeromedical evacuation mission in Iraq.

to keep it in perspective. I never forget that my deployment is only four months while others in the military serve as long as 15 months. In the end, I'm confident that God has a purpose and for now this is mine."

News from Our Graduates

1960s

Margaret Kinlan '63 B.S.N. during her retirement will be working part-time as a consultant and volunteer school nurse at Saint Vincent Ferrer High School in New York City. **Helen Connors '64 B.S.N., R.N., Ph.D., FAAN** was honored with the 2007 Virginia K. Saba Nursing Informatics Leadership Award, presented by Sigma Theta Tau International at its biennial convention in Baltimore last November. Dr. Connors is associate dean for academic affairs at the University of Kansas School of Nursing, where she has developed partnerships with many businesses and agencies to further the use of health-care information technologies. She serves on the Villanova College of Nursing's Board of Consultors.

1970s

Gloria J. McNeal '70 B.S.N., Ph.D., APRN, BC, FAAN, associate professor and associate dean for community and clinical affairs at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey's School of Nursing, in June received a New Jersey 2007 Governor's Nursing Merit Award in the Nurse Educator category. She

also was among the 20 highly accomplished nurses invited to join the 2007 Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellows Program, which provides three years of executive leadership development. **Judith A. Spross '74 B.S.N.** was co-editor of *Advanced Nursing Practice: an Integrative Approach*, 3rd ed. (2005) and was promoted to professor of nursing at the University of Southern Maine's College of Nursing and Health Professions. **Dr. Kathleen T. Patterson '75 B.S.N.** has been named director of Clarion University's School of Nursing and Allied Health, at Clarion's Venango Campus in Oil City, Pa. During her career, she has served as graduate program chair at Carlow University's School of Nursing in Pittsburgh, as program director of the Community Hospital's Millcreek Behavioral Health Center in Erie, and as a member of the nursing faculty and interim chair of the department of nursing at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford. Dr. Patterson has an extensive background in curriculum development and research. Her scholarship focuses on rural health-care issues in youth and adolescent populations. **Sandy Rochon '76 B.S.N.** is a clinical nurse specialist for the Wyoming Valley Health Care System in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. **Dr. Kathleen Harrigan Czekanski '77 B.S.N.** received her doctorate in nursing from

Duquesne University's School of Nursing. She is a faculty member at Jefferson School of Nursing in Philadelphia.

1980s

Kathleen Gelso '81 B.S.N. is a visiting assistant professor in nursing at Misericordia University in Dallas, Pa. **Marybeth Schreder LeBreton '81 B.S.N., M.S.N., R.N., CRNP** is a nurse practitioner in Pain and Palliative Services at Lancaster (Pa.) General Hospital. In June 2007, she was awarded the hospital's advanced practice/research award after being nominated by her peers. **Jeanne Jackson Venella '82 B.S.N., R.N., M.S., CEN** last September was awarded the 2007 Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) Nursing Practice Award, honoring her clinical expertise. The award was presented at ENA's annual conference in Salt Lake City, Utah. Venella is the interim director of Emergency Services for the Bon Secours Health System, through her consultant role with Blue Jay Consulting. **Cathy Alznauer Greenblum '83 B.S.N.** is in the Ph.D. program at the University of Florida's College of Nursing. She hopes to be both a researcher and educator. Her dissertation focuses on menopause and treatment decision making. Her research poster, "Effects of the

Villanova Nurses Gather Coast to Coast

California M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connolly Endowed Dean and Professor, enjoyed the company of Nursing alumni as she traveled throughout California last June to VUAA receptions for the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., '75 A&S, University president.

Summer and fall 2007 meant reunions for the College of Nursing. College representatives attended Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA) receptions around the country. The College also held its own receptions for alumni, parents and friends. Wherever the road led, it was good to gather together, updating everyone on advances in the College and hearing about individual achievements and other news.



Dean Fitzpatrick (center) with Lisa Freer '91 B.S.N. and her husband, Brad, who live in Hong Kong. They were in Los Angeles for the VUAA reception last June.

New York City Our thanks to Tara Siegel Cortes '67 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., president and CEO of Lighthouse International, who co-hosted a College of Nursing dinner in the Lighthouse executive suite with Dean Fitzpatrick on October 22, 2007. Dr. Cortes serves as a Villanova University trustee.



Tara Siegel Cortes '67 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N. (center) welcomes Sarah Skog '07 B.S.N. (left) and Nadia Kaczun '07 B.S.N. to Lighthouse International.



Dean Fitzpatrick with Christina Powell '06 B.S.N. (left) and Jennifer Valdez '06 B.S.N. at the Manhattan dinner



Three Navy nurses—(from left) Kendall Natter '06 B.S.N., Anne-Marie McAlarnen '05 B.S.N. and Michele Guagliardo '06 B.S.N.—at the VUAA reception in San Diego last June

Women's Health Initiative on Hormone Replacement Therapy Prescribing Practices," won first place at the Southern Nursing Research Society's 2007 annual conference, held in Galveston, Texas. Greenblum is a family nurse practitioner specializing in women's health. **Sharon Martinez '83 M.S.N., R.N.** in July 2007 was named director of Web Services for the University of Rochester Medical Center, where she oversees the creation of a unified Web site. She had been interim director of the division. She brings more than 25 years of health-care and marketing strategy to her position. **Helen J. Streubert Speziale '83 M.S.N., Ed.D., R.N.**, associate vice president of academic affairs at Misericordia University in Dallas, Pa., was among 41 nursing educators inducted last September into the inaugural class of the National League for Nursing's Academy of Nursing Education. **Samuel Miranda Jr.** last summer joined Good

Shepherd Rehabilitation Network as chief nursing officer; the network serves Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley area. In 1985, Miranda completed Role Excellence, the College of Nursing's post-master's certificate in nursing administration. **Steven J. Wyrsh '86 B.S.N.** retired from the Navy Nurse Corps in 2006 and is now director of special projects at Wentworth-Douglass Hospital in Dover, N.H. He is involved in building medical office complexes to expand services into the community. He continues to do consulting work in military and legislative forums. **Lisa Reilly '87 B.S.N.** last summer joined Cramer Healthcare of Norwood, Mass., as vice president of strategic planning. She has 20 years of health-care expertise, most recently as senior product manager at Philips Medical Systems. **Thomas J. Linhares '89 M.S.N., R.N.** is vice president of operations at Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan.

1990s

Joyce M. Brown Coleman '91 B.S.N. is licensed as a women's health nurse practitioner as of January 2007 and also is an international board-certified lactation consultant and a Lamaze certified childbirth educator. Coleman is a faculty member at Riverside School of Professional Nursing in Newport News, Va. **Lorraine Reiser '94 M.S.N., Ph.D., CRNP** successfully defended her dissertation, "Health Beliefs and Behaviors of College Women," in June 2007 at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Nursing. She is the director of graduate programs at Carlow University's School of Nursing, also in Pittsburgh. **Rosemary Hohenleitner Miller '95 B.S.N., '01 M.S.N., CRNP** gave a lecture on stress testing at the fifth Quebec International Symposium on Cardiopulmonary Prevention and Rehabilitation, which took place in June 2007. Her abstract was published in *Clinical and Investigative Medicine* (Summer 2007). **Megan Quick '98 B.S.N., M.P.H.** is a

Boston College of Nursing friends, alumni, prospective students and parents joined together at the Boston Marriott Newton on October 16, 2007, to rejoice in each other's successes.



Guests at the Boston reception included (front row, from left) Karen Lafond '82 B.S.N.; Jill Lafond, who has been accepted to the Nursing class of 2012; Deb Shannon, who is Angela's mother; (back row, from left) Dean Fitzpatrick; Angela Shannon, a Nursing freshman who is a Presidential Scholar; and Kathryn Mawn '06 B.S.N.



Other guests at the Manhattan event included (front row, from left) Katie Atkinson '02 B.S.N.; Eileen Stark '79 B.S.N.; (back row, from left) Rose O'Driscoll '64 B.S.N., M.S.N., R.N., assistant dean for administration and assistant professor of Nursing; Kimberly Reyes '99 B.S.N.; Lisa Caserta '02 B.S.N.; and Elizabeth Kula '02 B.S.N.



Assistant Dean O'Driscoll with Susan Sciotino '77 B.S.N. (left) and Helen Kelly Lynch '84 B.S.N. at the dinner at Lighthouse International

Philadelphia and Washington, D.C.

Independence Blue Cross in Philadelphia graciously offered space on its 44th floor for a reception on November 29, 2007, co-hosted by Dean Fitzpatrick and Navy Rear Adm. Christine Bruzek-Kohler '74 B.S.N., M.A., Ed.D., R.N., FACHE (see page 28). The East Coast receptions last fall also included an October 28 event at the Georgetown University Marriott in Washington, D.C.



(From left) Gathering at the Philadelphia reception were Barbara Drake '66 B.S.N.; Dean Fitzpatrick; Mary Ellen Lorenz '83 B.S.N.; Judith Klimek '66 B.S.N.; and Patricia Schneider '66 B.S.N.



Donna Gatti '83 B.S.N. (left) and Geraldine Kobak '83 B.S.N. at the Philadelphia event

nurse at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. She practices pediatric nursing in the PICU and with the hospital's pediatric transport team. She completed her M.P.H. at Hopkins' Bloomberg School of Public Health and looks forward to becoming involved in education and research related to the transport team's simulators. The PICU team travels by ground, helicopter and sometimes plane to bring infants and children from regional and community hospitals to Hopkins for specialized care.

2000s

Debbie J. Rahn '01 M.S.N., R.N., CNF, FABC, of Mohnton, Pa., in August 2007 was named director of the nursing program at The Reading (Pa.) Hospital School of Health Sciences. She had been the school's curriculum coordinator and before that was a faculty instructor. **Heather Miller Calendrillo '02 B.S.N., M.S.N.** in May 2007 earned her M.S.N. at Stony Brook University's School

of Nursing. She works as a pediatric nurse practitioner at Good Samaritan Hospital in Babylon, N.Y. **Megan Paieda Allen '02 B.S.N., M.S.N.** in August 2007 received her M.S.N. in health care systems management from Loyola University in New Orleans. **Joseph Anton '04 B.S.N.** in July 2007 assumed the position of director of patient logistics at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia.

In Memoriam: Alumni

Geraldine Marie "Gerrie" Deegan '60 B.S.N., of Virginia Beach, Va., died on April 12, 2007, after a long illness. She was 68. She was a clinical nurse specialist and nurse educator until her retirement in 2002.

Eleanor Corte '63 B.S.N., of Wayne, Pa., died in July 2007.

Jane L. Robinson '88 B.S.N. died on November 13, 2007, in Santa Fe, N.M., after a long battle with leukemia.

Call for Nominations to the Nursing Alumni Society

To nominate yourself for the following positions in the Nursing Alumni Society, please complete this form and mail for receipt by **February 8, 2009**.

I wish to be nominated for:

- Vice President
- Board member

Mail this form to:

Nursing Alumni Society
College of Nursing
800 Lancaster Avenue
Villanova University
Villanova, PA 19085-1690

To update your alumni profile, please call the Villanova University Alumni Association at 1-800-VILLANOVA or e-mail alumni@villanova.edu.

Help Us Locate These Missing Alumni

The College of Nursing strives to stay in contact with all of our alumni. However, sometimes we lose touch with someone because of a move or a name change. Please take a moment to see if you're in contact with any of our "missing alumni" listed below and could help us reconnect. We would love to hear from you!

Please send any contact updates to Kate Wechsler in Villanova University's Alumni Affairs Office. Her e-mail address is catherine.wechsler@villanova.edu. The office's toll-free phone number is 1-800-845-5266. Her direct line is 610-519-6511.

All names below are alumni of the Nursing undergraduate program unless indicated by * as graduate program alumni.

Class	Last, First Name	Name at Graduation	Class	Last, First Name	Name at Graduation
1942	Kenney, Jane R.	Kenney	1970	Defreytas, Barbara M.	Moran
1949	Fox, Barbara W.	Wynkoop		Wiegner, Pauline L.	Lawler
1951	Heron, Anne	Heron	1971	Corwin, Elizabeth C.	Coursey
1952	Coll, Rita C.	Coll	1972	Ahern, Maryellen P., M.D.	Ahern
1954	Kane, Margorie	Kane		Kovacs, Annemarie T., M.D.	Kovacs
1955	Farmer, Mary P.	Farmer		Marshall, Patricia A.	Marshall
1956	Delviscio, Philomena V.	Delviscio		Milanese, Barbara N.	Nix
	Estrin, Elizabeth R.	Estrin		Monzo, Angela M.	Monzo
	Gruhler, Matilda W.	Williams		Weber, Darleene A.	Weber
	McAllister, Joan L.	McAllister		Wimer, Jessica L.	Wimer
	Weir, Ann L.	Lung	1973	Carius, Maura A.	Dugan
1957	Connolly, Mary Elizabeth	Connolly		Offenheiser, Mary K.	Kleban
	Haggerty, Sister Mary Agnes Dolores, O.S.F.	Haggerty	1974	George, Louise C.	Crafa
	Polakowska, Sister Mary Auxencia, C.S.F.N.	Polakowska		Hart, Alethea M.	Hart
	Trinity, Sister Mary Mercita, C.R.S.M.	Trinity		Keefer, Denise M.	Demarco
1958	St. Leger, Theresa M.	St. Leger	1975	Schele, Karen T.	Schele
1959	Poole, Charlotte M.	Poole		Abboud, Judith W., M.D.	Sotman
	Robinson, Sister Mary R.	Rita		Guaraldo, Catharine B.	Blanchfield
	Tregnan, Anna A.	Renz		Myer, Kathryn P.	Palombo
1960	Hessler, Gale W.	Hessler		Roy, Deborah S.	Stanton
1961	Decolon, Mary L.	Decolon	1976	Jones, Jennifer W.	Jones
1962	Chomentowski, Anna M.	Chomentowski	1977	Mohan, Bridget N.	Nemeth
	Vecchio, Gael C.	Casey		Northrop, Ann H.	Hunt
1963	Dooley, Mary E.	Dooley		Sirois, Maureen	Berry
	Fenstermacher, Anne C.	Tobin		Smith, Laurie A.	Smith
	Gregory, Jean L.	Gregory		Wilson, Mary F.	Ford
	McLaughlin, Mrs. Edward J., Jr.	McLaughlin	1978	Armenti, Barbara Anderson	Anderson
1965	Tate, Christine E.	Tate		Leiper, Diane L.	Smith
1966	Riccardella, Carol D.	Donohue		O'Loughlin, Nancy T.	O'Loughlin
	Wise, Earlene B.	Wise	1979	Kim, Byung L.	Song
1967	Dolan, Georgia P.	Phelps		Lynch, Kim W.	Lynch
1968	Keenan, Marianne K.	Keenan	1981	Kuehnle, Carole R.	Kuehnle
1969	Kenny, Sister Helen M.	Kenny		O'Meara, Donna M.	Weiner
	Knecht, Lynn S.	Knecht	1982	McHugh, Polly M.	McHugh
	Moriarty, Maris M.	Merlini		Tirado, Stephanie A.	Bonk
			1983	Couchara, Maria H.	Couchara
				Lange, Mary P.	Mapes
			1984	Coury, Sharon L.	Wildey
				Herron, Paulette L.*	Herron
				Velez, Karen A.	Velez
1985	Drennen, M. Joan	Coppa			
1986	Cochran, Ina M.	Freund			
	Iannacone, Elizabeth S.	Iannacone			
	Kandler, Debra A.	Kandler			
	Krasucki, Constance	Krasucki			
1987	Buczowski, Mary	Buczowski			
	Coates, Carol A.	Coates			
	Downing, Susan J.	Downing			
	Enright, Lisa M.	Enright			
	O'Mara, Margaret M.	Kershner			
1989	Robinson, Patricia A.	Robinson			
1990	Lizura, Elizabeth*	Lizura			
	Parson, Christine Marie*	Embon			
	Scott, Anna E.	Scott			
1991	Keschner, Jennifer S.	Jockel			
	McComas, Linda A.*	McComas			
	McGuigan, Lianne M.	McGuigan			
	Yannul, Eileen M.	Yannul			
1993	Drake, Bridget E.	Fitzpatrick			
1994	Johnson, Jennifer L.	Johnson			
	Mar, Piros	Mar			
	McGee, Megan J.	McGee			
1995	Croteau, Karen L., Air Force Capt.	Croteau			
	Santana, Jill M.	Murphy			
1997	Cunnane, Connie	Cunnane			
	Sliwkowski, Joey	Sliwkowski			
1998	Cooper, Joanne M.	Matthias			
	Pusoetsile, Wapula M.	Pusoetsile			
	Sherlock, Megan A.	Sherlock			
1999	King, Jennifer M.	King			
	Sun, Hongyu*	Sun			
	Woodworth, Jillian K.	Logan			
2000	Soler, Sandra Maria*	Soler			
2001	Smith, Jennifer Anne*	Smith			
2002	Barton, Kristen E.	Barton			
	Bonser, Robert C.*	Bonser			
	Filosi, Karen L.	Filosi			
	Harrell, Monica A.	Harrell			
	Hart, Susan L.	Hart			
	Martowska, Michelle M.	Martowska			
	Reisman, Jean	—			
	Sybilrud, Lauren E.	Sybilrud			
2003	Apice, Theresa A.	Apice			
2004	Heim, Kathleen Patricia	Myers			
	Kaminski, Robin	Kaminski			

Another Way You Can Help

To complete the College of Nursing's records, we would also like to have the names of Presidential Scholars from the Nursing classes of 1985, 1986, 1987, 1993 and 1994. If you were so honored, or know someone from these classes who was, please contact Ann Barrow McKenzie '86 B.S.N., '91 M.S.N., R.N., coordinator of College Relations, by phone at (610) 519-6814 or by e-mail at ann.mckenzie@villanova.edu.

Here's to Our Heritage Class of 1957

At Alumni Reunion Weekend 2007, Villanova University's Class of 1957 celebrated its 50th anniversary. That's a treasured Villanova tradition. But last year, for the first time, a traditional B.S.N. class from the College of Nursing reached that 50-year mark.

Beginning in 1932, Villanova had offered liberal arts courses for registered nurses. In fall 1953, it ushered in co-education when 10 female students became the first to enroll in the B.S.N. program. Six of them graduated in June 1957.

All three living members of Nursing's heritage class attended the dinner in Donahue Hall on June 9, 2007, when Villanovans who graduated 50 years ago were inducted into the Half-Century Society and given medallions. The three Nursing alumnae honored were Betty Ann Curran Grozier '57 B.S.N., from Sedona, Ariz.; Cecelia "Cissy" DeMuro Paul '57 B.S.N., from Philadelphia; and Rita Shigo DeFebo '57 B.S.N., from the Allentown, Pa., area. The other three graduates from that first B.S.N. class are deceased: Dolores Cofield Buchanan '57 B.S.N.; Winifred Daly '57 B.S.N.; and Sister Theolinda, O.S.F., '57 B.S.N. (the former Joan Moore).

Being a Villanova Nursing student five decades ago was "wonderful!" DeFebo said. Relating her own experiences to those of current students, she added that "Today the future of Villanova Nursing is so progressive. The students are seeking out experiences for the betterment of the world through their travels in the United States and study abroad." Paul agrees with her classmate's view: "I am amazed at the growth of the College of Nursing. I am very proud to be one of the first



(From left) Betty Ann Curran Grozier '57 B.S.N., Rita Shigo DeFebo '57 B.S.N. and Cecelia "Cissy" DeMuro Paul '57 B.S.N., who were among the first to enroll in the B.S.N. program in 1953, last June became the first College of Nursing graduates to be inducted into the Half-Century Society.

class members." Grozier noted that she and her classmates are "grateful for the years we had at Villanova."

The College was applauded at the dinner for bringing the first full-time undergraduate women students to Villanova. Today, 52 percent of all Villanova undergraduates are women.

Julia Boland Paparella, B.S.N.Ed., M.S.Ed., M.S.L.S., R.N., associate professor emerita who taught these pioneering Nursing students, attended the reception with her husband, Dr. Benedict A. Paparella. Other guests included M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connolly Endowed Dean and Professor, and Rose O'Driscoll '64 B.S.N., M.S.N., R.N., assistant dean for administration and assistant professor. Dean Fitzpatrick presented special gifts to Paul, Grozier and DeFebo for being among the first six traditional B.S.N. graduates.

Congratulations to these pioneers! They successfully paved the way for the College's Nursing's future accomplishments and achievements.

Reunion 2007 Memories



At the "Dean's Chat," held on Saturday morning during Alumni Reunion Weekend 2007, (from left) Dean Fitzpatrick discussed plans for the new College of Nursing building with Janet Pomponio Stuart '62 B.S.N., Florence Benas Smoczynski '62 B.S.N. and Mary Frances Kleha Kenny '62 B.S.N.



(From left) Four classmates from the Class of 1967 caught up at Alumni Reunion Weekend 2007. They are (from left) Theresa Wilson Mruz '67 B.S.N.; Tara Siegal Cortes '67 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N.; Wynann Slack Moore '67 B.S.N.; and Adrienne Corrao McIntosh '67 B.S.N.

College Designated Again as a Center of Excellence

“We are inspired by your commitment to students, your efforts to advance excellence in nursing education and your exemplary leadership in the field.”

—From the 2007 citation by the National League for Nursing, once more naming Villanova University’s College of Nursing as a Center of Excellence

The National League for Nursing (NLN) for the second time has designated the College of Nursing as a Center of Excellence (COE). The College voluntarily sought and was granted the designation after rigorous review in its selected category, “Creating environments that enhance student learning and professional development.” Representatives from the College accepted the honor at the NLN Education Summit in Phoenix, Ariz., on September 29, 2007.

In 2004, the College was one of the country’s inaugural three schools of nursing to receive the honor, and in 2007 was one of only four honored in this category. The College continues to be among the 11 schools in several categories that have received the prestigious three-year designation. The NLN is the oldest professional nursing organization in the country that has nursing education as its primary concern.

“The College of Nursing’s continuing designation as a Center of Excellence is symbolic of the dynamic quality education that our students receive,” explained M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor. “Equally important, it recognizes the stellar achievements of our graduates who distinguish us through their professional performance,” she added.

The designation, which is separate from accreditation, identifies schools of exceptional quality. The NLN cited many of the



In Phoenix last fall, at the National League for Nursing (NLN) Education Summit, the College of Nursing was recognized for its excellence in student learning and professional development. On stage for the ceremony were (from left) Maryann V. Lieb ’85 M.S.N., clinical assistant professor of Nursing; Carol Toussie Weingarten, Ph.D., R.N., associate professor of Nursing; L. Antoinette Bargagliotti, D.N.Sc., R.N., president of the NLN from 2005-07; Nancy Sharts-Hopko, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, professor and director of the Nursing Doctoral Program; Beverly Malone, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, the CEO of the NLN; and Marguerite K. Schlag ’68 B.S.N., Ed.D., R.N., assistant dean and director of the Graduate Nursing Program.

College’s inventive education opportunities as leading to its success. Through their international experiences, Villanova Nursing students develop a global perspective and provide service to diverse cultures and underserved populations. Close mentoring relationships enable both faculty and students to influence the profession regionally and nationally. Faculty promote innovative, evidence-based teaching-learning experiences, all set in an environment fostering trust and empowerment. Villanova Nursing demonstrates high standards and commitment to these ideals across its bachelor’s, master’s, doctoral and Continuing Education programs.

Nursing schools with the COE designation serve as models “to inspire other schools to strive for excellence,” according to Dr. Terry Valiga, NLN’s chief program officer.



Villanova University
College of Nursing
800 Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, Pennsylvania
19085-1690

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