Greetings from the Director

The 2012-13 academic year promises to be both challenging and stimulating. The Office of Student Services received 188 applications for the spring ‘13 pre-licensure class. The pre-licensure program has 49 new and 150 continuing students. The RN-BSN program has 47 new and 42 continuing students. The Clinical Research program has 47 new and 14 continuing students. The Master of Science in Clinical Research has 14 new and 15 continuing students. The Office of Student Services is providing advising for 560 pre-nursing majors, 51 clinical research majors and 15 RN-BSN majors. The MSN program has 33 new students and 60 continuing students.

Recruitment activities in the School of Nursing (SON) will be robust this coming academic year. Due to increased enrollment, the SON received seven new faculty positions. In addition, there are seven existing vacancies. Over the summer, SON developed a proposal to request the development of the Doctor of Nursing Program (DNP). The proposal was approved by the Graduate School and will be moving forward to the UNC General Administration for approval. (See related story on page 3).

GEAR UP 2012

During the weeks of June 17-22 and July 9-13, SON hosted 42 high school students (21 in each camp) enrolled in the N.C. GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs). The students from Randolph, Lexington, Graham, Cleveland, Rutherford, Wayne and Forsyth counties were selected to participate in this intensive program designed to explore health care. Some of the activities included classes in CPR and First Aid training, patient simulations, vital signs and anatomy, as well as activities involving team building and the college admission process. Nursing faculty who provided the hands-on instruction were Nancy Murdock, Carol Highsmith, Ann Zabriskie, Patty White, Brandy Mechling and Anne Marie Goff.

Janie Canty-Mitchell served as the project director and Cyndi Meredith as project coordinator. The mission of the program, which began in 1998, is to support early college preparation and awareness activities for low-income students. Programs focus on academic and career-related areas which include segments on college life, admissions, college testing and more.
Notable Recognition

Jessica Watkins Smith, MSN, RN, FNP-C (FNP, Dec. '10) received the 2012 Nursing for Women’s Health Excellence in Writing Award for her manuscript from her graduate project on polycystic ovary disease at the 2012 (AWHONN Convention (Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses) in Washington, D. C. The complete citation is:


Congratulations to the Class of May 2012 for achieving a 98 percent passing rate on the NCLEX! This passing score brings the annualized pass rate to 96 percent.

Notable Achievements

Congratulations to the School of Nursing alumni. The Overall Annual Giving for the SON alumni during 2012 phonothon increased 16 percent from $10,128.36 to $11,791.22. These funds can be used to support student scholarships, Simulation Learning Center activities, travel abroad for students and faculty/student development.


Anne Zabriskie published an article in *Nursing Education Perspectives*. The complete citation is as follows:


In addition, Zabriskie published this article on the NLN Simulation Innovation Resource Center (SIRC) website available at: http://sirc.nln.org/course/view.php?id=18


Lawrence has also authored an online course on fall prevention:


She respectfully requests that faculty who are interested in authoring an online continuing education course for www.rnceus.com to contact her.

Faculty Lunch-Time Conversations

Each month a lunch-time conversation on various topics has been scheduled for faculty in Room 1051 to share thoughts and experiences related to the topics. The schedule of topics is as follows:

- Sept. 7: “Sharing Your Best Practices: Been There, Done That, But Would Have I Done It Differently?”
- Oct. 1: An Update for NHRMC Faculty on the NOVA Statstrip Glucose Meter
- Oct. 15: QSEN Initiative
- Nov. 18: “Just Culture” NCBON Initiative
News from the Office of Student Services

Applications for pre-licensure admissions beginning in the spring semester have been processed. The number of applicants has risen considerably as students applied for Option One (the current curriculum) or Option Two (the new curriculum that will begin in Jan. '13 and run concurrently with the older curriculum as it is being phased out).

Option One had 102 eligible applicants. The top 50 students had a GPA in math/science of 3.42 and a GPA in non-math/science courses of 3.66. The average TEAS score for this cohort was 85.4.

Option Two had 86 eligible applicants. The top 50 students had a math/science GOA of 3.68 and a non-math/science GPA of 3.76. The average TEAS score for these students was 83.5.

According to Mark Werbeach, coordinator of student services, there will be a new online appointment scheduling system introduced the week of Aug. 29. This system will allow students to schedule appointment with their advisor online, similar to how they do in University College. A tutorial will be scheduled for interested faculty who would like to use the system as well.

Development of the DNP Proposal

In June, the proposal for a Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP) was developed and approved by the UNCW Graduate Council and administration. Currently, it is before UNC General Administration for review. Proposals from sister schools, which had earlier been submitted over the past several years, were reviewed in July by the UNC General Administration. The UNCW proposal, if approved, will begin as a post-master's program in the fall '14 with the admission of five full-time and five part-time students. Post-baccalaureate admissions will be added to the program in the fall '17. The SON graduate faculty will begin curriculum development this academic year to prepare courses and course sequencing for optimum outcomes. A consultant will be hired to provide guidance and oversight to the process.

Simulation Learning Center (SLC) News

During the summer months the SLC was active with two sessions of the 2012 Gear-Up program and a number of interactive tours for middle and high school students. In addition, there were activities of conducting software updates on high fidelity simulators, performing routine maintenance of the equipment and completing annual inventories of disposable and durable goods. Lindsay Futrell, Simulation Lab consultant, developed a master archiving system for all student and faculty simulation recordings housed on the SLC server.

Due to the recent FDA recall of certain Baxter Intravenous (IV) pumps, the SLC now has five new Sigma Spectrum™ pumps for student use. Similarly, the SON was able to take advantage of an exchange program with the Laerdal Company for Vital Sim™ remote units. All Sim Anne™ and Sim Kelly™ mannequins now function with a wireless Sim Pad™ unit. Also, a new virtual IV simulator was purchased to replace a non-functioning one. Students will use this simulator to practice IV insertion techniques prior to clinical experiences.

Nursing students will begin the current academic year by participating in numerous SLC activities where they will view demonstrations of technical skills and participate in hands-on practice of technical skills to be used in future clinical settings.
Quality Enhancement Program (QEP) Update

SON faculty Kathleen Ennen, RuthAnne Kuiper, Kae Livsey, Deborah Pollard and Patricia White attended the 2012 Applied Learning Summer Institute at UNCW July 30-Aug. 1. Workshops were held on National Society for Experiential Education (NSEE) Principles of Ethical and Best Practice for Experiential Educators, Designing Critical Reflection to Generate, Deepen and Document Learning and the QEP model at UNCW.

A call for course proposals to integrate some of the best practice principles went out to workshop attendees for the fall ’12 semester and an additional call for course proposals will go out again later this year for other interested faculty. Some university-wide workshops planned for the fall semester for faculty are: Intention/Reflection in Undergraduate Research (Sept. 12); Simulations, Games and Other Teaching Strategies (Oct. 17) and Collaboration and Sustainability (Nov. 14). All sessions begin at 3 p.m.

To learn more about the QEP, visit the website at: http://uncw.edu/QEP/index.html

Welcome to Our Newest Faculty

Carolyn Jones, full-time pediatric faculty and a native of North Carolina. She grew up near Asheville, and received her BSN from Lenoir-Rhyne College. After working in adult intensive care, neonatal intensive care and home health, she earned her master’s degree from the Medical University of South Carolina before working as a neonatal nurse practitioner. Jones is now in the dissertation phase of her Ph.D. from UNC-Chapel Hill in which her research focuses on blogs written by parents of hospitalized children describing stress and coping techniques. Jones is the mother of three children, one of whom is in the UNCW Honors College. She and her husband, a high school media specialist, have two dogs.

Heather Sears, part-time pediatric clinical faculty, began her nursing career with an ADN degree from Wake Tech in Raleigh before completing the RN to BSN program at ECU. In May of this year Sears graduated with her MSN in Nursing Education from ECU. In her free time, she enjoys the beach, cooking and trying new recipes. She and her husband also enjoy saltwater fishing.

Heidi Winslow, part-time Adult Health I and Health Assessment (undergraduate) clinical/lab instructor, spent 10 years working in the ICU/CCU units before taking a break to raise four children. She returned to school in 2010 and graduated with her MSN in the education track from Liberty University with Janie Canty-Mitchell as her preceptor. Having been raised in California and Hawaii, Winslow spends her free time enjoying the outdoors and exercise. She reports that her entire family surfs, which is one of the reasons they reside at Wrightsville Beach. She volunteers her time preserving the beauty of Coastal Carolina.

Saralyn Gillikin, part-time Adult Health I clinical instructor, brings 25 years of nursing experience to her position as part-time Adult Health I clinical instructor. Gillikin graduated with ADN from Sampson Community College after high school and later earned her BSN and MSN from Grand Canyon University. Her professional career concentrated on nursing with labor and delivery, surgical trauma intensive care and outpatient services units. Clinical interests with concentrations in labor and delivery, surgical trauma intensive care, and outpatient services. Her clinical interests include the critically-ill obstetric patient with focus on nursing collaboration, incorporating evidenced based practice, and servant leadership. Gillikin and her husband have an 11-year-old daughter and enjoy spending their free time on their boat or at the stables with their daughter’s pony.
Nu Omega Chapter Presents Educational Program

The Nu Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International will sponsor an educational forum on Sept. 18 from 6-7 p.m. in Room 1051 (McNeill Hall). Dwight Lysne, MD, is a board certified child, adolescent & adult psychiatrist who works at Haven Ministries. Lysne will discuss his experiences at Haven Ministries whose mission is "to provide people suffering the effects of trauma, mental illness and substance abuse access to compassionate comprehensive evaluation, treatment and healing that is Christ-centered, Gospel-integrated and worshiped-focused." The services of the ministry are provided individuals without racial, religious, gender or financial discrimination.

Curriculum Committee News

During this semester the Curriculum Committee will be finalizing new courses for spring '13 implementation of the new curriculum: a revision of the current NSG 250 (Health Assessment) and NSG 252 (Foundations in Professional Nursing Practice). Activities include planning course content and modules, student learning outcomes, teaching strategies, clinical placements, simulation lab activities and student learning assessments. In addition, the committee will examine faculty proposals for nursing courses that are consistent with the new University Studies requirements.

A Fond Farewell to Janie Canty-Mitchell

Janie Canty-Mitchell, Associate Director for Research and Sponsored Programs, has recently accepted a position as Chair, Department of Family and Community Health Systems in the School of Nursing at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center San Antonio.

Under her leadership and grant procurement, numerous SON community and educational outreach programs were initiated and successfully implemented. To name a few: five years of Camp BONES (an 11-day summer program that introduced five cohorts of middle school students to careers in nursing and to college life), five years of the Youth Health Summit, which allowed more than 200 middle school students from 15 Southeastern N. C. counties to participate in a forum addressing current health issues, and N. C. GEAR UP (Gaining Early Access to Readiness for Higher Education, a five-day summer enrichment program that introduces underserved high school students to nursing and other health profession careers). Further, Canty-Mitchell was instrumental in the organization and planning of six Nu Omega Chapter Research Day programs, many of the annual N.C. District 22 Nurses’ Day Celebrations and various speaker engagements on campus.

In 2009, Canty-Mitchell was recognized by the University of Miami School of Nursing as its Distinguished Alumnus and in 2011, was chosen among a highly competitive pool to join other outstanding women to participate in the 2012 Leadership America, a program of the Foundation for Women’s Resources.

Our heartfelt appreciation to Canty-Mitchell for her numerous community, research and leadership contributions to the UNCW community and for her tireless efforts in the School of Nursing. We extend to her our best wishes in her new endeavors. She can be reached by email, (janiemit111@aol.com), cell phone, (813-380-6367), or at www.linkedin.com.

Please submit calendar events, notable achievements, community events, research/scholarship activities and questions for faculty/staff to our editorial and production staff: Sandy O’Donnell (odonnells@uncw.edu) or Debra Simpson (simpsond@uncw.edu).