

Spring, 2008

Message From the Dean

Demetrius J. Porche, DNS, PhD ©, APRN



The nursing profession is truly one of the most remarkable professions. Our profession continues to develop and expand amidst numerous health care environment challenges, especially in the area of quality and safety. Nurses remain at the heart and center of the health care system. We, as nurses, continue to be the most respected profession in our society. As the leaders who are ever-present in the health care environment, we must take the opportunity to capitalize on this distinction to promote continued quality and safety in health care. Nurses touch the lives of practically every patient, from the acute care setting and into the community. We experience some of the most intimate moments with our clients at their most vulnerable times. At Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center (LSUHSC) School of Nursing, our faculty strives to keep our profession as dynamic as ever before. We continue to instill our core values of respect, integrity, professionalism, caring, excellence, and diversity into our students. Our core values are critical to maintaining our level of respect as a profession, providing leadership and creating the expectation of quality and excellence in patient care in a safe health care environment.

Voluntary national accreditation of nursing educational programs is another fundamental aspect of excellence. Our faculty are actively involved in the self-study process for re-accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Our accreditation on-site visit is scheduled for March 2-4, 2009. At the time of our on-site accreditation visit, we will invite our alumni, community partners, and clinical affiliated agency representatives to participate in our accreditation process. You will be hearing more of our accreditation preparations in the future newsletters.

Nurses are often considered leaders among leaders, which is evident in our nursing students and faculty. Our nursing students continue to emerge as future leaders in the profession through their active involvement in the Student Nurses Association, Student Government Association, and their class activities. Several LSUHSC nursing students are active board members of the Louisiana Association of Student Nurses. LSUHSC was represented nationally by 13 nursing students who attended the National Student Nurses Association meeting in Grapevine, Texas in March, 2008. In addition, our faculty continues to maintain key leadership positions at the local, state and national level.

Nursing leaders continue to chart the course of the future through generative thinking and planning. Our faculty, staff, and students have engaged in the leadership activity of strategic planning over the past few months. We have completed the strategic planning process that concluded with the development of a strategic map and implementation plans. The strategic map is the result of generative thinking from our administrative team, faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community stakeholders. Our LSUHSC School of Nursing strategic map can be viewed at <http://nursing.lsuhscc.edu/AboutUs/StrategicMap.html>. The central challenge presented in the strategic map is to strengthen and promote LSUHSC School of Nursing's identity and distinctiveness as a means of positioning the nursing school for national recognition. This will be accomplished through securing the needed resources and aligning the organizational infrastructure; strengthening the environment of excellence; using innovative research to build evidence based models; implementing population-based practice models; and implementing innovative educational approaches in the BSN, MN, and DNS programs.

Technological advancements continue to change our educational approaches. We are expanding our simulation education with the addition of a new birthing simulator. Some of our nursing students have engaged in intraprofessional simulation educational experiences as a component of the OR elective course. In addition, our Nursing Skills and Technology Center is increasing the utilization of on-line skills videos that can be accessed at any time by our nursing students to promote the learning of technical nursing skills. Technological innovations using human simulation have been integrated into selective continuing nursing education courses. The first and second floor of the nursing school will experience a renovation.

This newsletter will provide you with a snapshot of some of the wonderful things our faculty, staff and students are doing at LSUHSC.

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Beverly Malone, PhD, RN, FAAN Delivers 2008 Chancellor's Lecture

The LSUHSC School of Nursing was honored to have Dr. Beverly Malone deliver the 2008 Chancellor's Lecture, *Nursing within the Health Sciences Arena: From Bench to Practice to Policy*. Dr. Malone, who is the CEO of the National League for Nursing, has worked as a surgical staff nurse, clinical nurse specialist, director of nursing and assistant administrator of nursing. During the 1980's, she was dean of the School of Nursing at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. In 1996, she was elected for two terms as president of the American Nurses' Association (ANA), representing 180,000 nurses in the USA. In 2000, she became deputy assistant secretary for health within the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the highest position so far held by any nurse in the United States Government.



Dr. Malone was general secretary of the Royal College of Nursing (RCN), the United Kingdom's largest professional union of nurses with more than 390,000 members, from June, 2001 through January, 2007. She was also a member of the Higher Education Funding Council for England. She represented the RCN at the pan-European nursing body, the European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN), the Commonwealth Nurses Federation, and International Council of Nurses with the RCN president.

In February, 2007, Dr. Malone was appointed as chief executive officer of the National League for Nursing in New York. Dedicated to excellence in nursing, the NLN is the premier organization for nurse faculty and leaders in nursing education, offering faculty development, networking opportunities, testing and assessment, nursing research grants, and public policy initiatives to its 20,000 individual and 1100 institutional members.

Ochsner Nursing and LSUHSC School of Nursing Partner for Research Journal Clubs

The research journal clubs on some of the nursing units at Ochsner were reinstated in January, 2008. **Drs. Susan Rick and Dianna Douglas** met with Ochsner nursing staff on the psychiatric unit to explore the latest evidence for keeping the unit safe and ways to decrease or effectively deal with problems of behavior escalation. Their next journal club presentation will be focused on the issue of spirituality in the psychiatric setting.

Dr. Susan Orlando met with the maternal-child nursing journal club and discussed a randomized controlled trial for maintaining peripheral intravenous locks in children. This topic was of particular interest to nurses caring for newborns and older children because of the occurrence of medication errors involving massive heparin overdose in the pediatric population. Recent errors involving preterm newborns in neonatal intensive care units received significant attention in the national media.

Ms. Judy Gentry, Dr. Marsha Bennett, and the Ochsner oncology nurses evaluated a systematic review of the literature related to mucositis in cancer patients. Plans are to examine screening tools for mucositis and conduct a nursing research project.

School of Nursing Introduces Masters in Nursing Education Track

The Nursing Education track is an intensive master's track designed for completion in one year. The curriculum is built on theory and skills of a baccalaureate nursing program. The purpose is to prepare nurses to become nurse educators and accomplish their career goals in academic, practice and service settings. The program utilizes adult learning theory: course content is presented in relation to nursing and education theory, curriculum development, critical thinking, leadership and nurse educator roles, and traditional and online teaching strategies in nursing. There is discussion of evaluation tools and processes to use in programs for nursing students or in staff development settings. In addition, there are interactive activities integrated throughout the courses, designed to enhance learning through application of relevant concepts. The graduate will acquire knowledge of the theories, strategies and practical skills necessary for effective leadership in nursing education!

Applications are welcome. The first cohort will begin classes in Summer of 2008 with a full time enrollment graduation date of May 2009. Part time enrollment is also available.

For more information, contact the Office of Student Affairs at 568-4200 and / or Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, Program Director (jcouvi@lsuhsc.edu). For advisement, application deadline and to obtain a graduate program application visit our website at <http://nursing.lsuhs.edu>.

American College of Nurse Practitioners Appoints Jacqueline Rhoads PhD, ACNP-BC, ANP-C, CCRN, FAANP to Board of Directors

Dr. Rhoads, a professor at LSUHCS School of Nursing, serves as an Adult Nurse Practitioner at Odyssey House Free Clinic and is also an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner. Her research focuses on PTSD with active duty service personnel, women in the military, medical personnel, post Vietnam veterans, and Post Desert Storm PTSD effects. Dr. Rhoads has written numerous articles on clinical and professional issues for both acute and primary care nursing. She holds over ten Excellence in Teaching awards and has been a frequent speaker in many national organizations. Her numerous publications include 3 books and over 29 publications in referred and non-referred journals and newsletters. Her research involves four non-funded state grants, twenty funded grants (state, federal, local awards), and over 100 formal presentations in the United States, Europe and the Middle East.



CINHAL Changes Coming

For many years, CINAHL, the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature, was published out of Glendale Adventist Hospital in California. In 2003, EBSCO Information Systems purchased CINAHL, which will no longer be available from other vendors such as Ovid at the end of 2008.

The LSUHSC librarians, as well as nursing librarians all over the world, are working to become proficient in using the EBSCO searching system in order to provide expert access to the primary database for searching the nursing literature. Faculty and student instruction in the use of the Ovid search system has been discontinued and the librarians will be transitioning long-time Ovid searchers to the new system. Watch for announcements of Ovid-to-EBSCO classes especially designed for veteran searchers.

The LSUHSC Library will retain Ovid as one of its search systems, but CINHAL will no longer be one of the database choices. The HaPI (Health and Psychosocial Instruments) database is exclusively available through Ovid and will continue to be available through that vendor.



Academy for the Advancement of Educational Scholarship Inducts Five from School of Nursing

Founding members of the LSUHSC Academy for the Advancement of Educational Scholarship were inducted on October 12, 2007. It signified the successful implementation of an innovative health sciences center model that was planned prior to Hurricane Katrina. In total, forty nine members were inducted from the five schools of the Health Sciences Center; six from the School of Allied Health, two from the School of Dentistry, thirty from the School of Medicine, five from the School of Nursing, and six from the School of Public Health.

Dr. Celeste Carter and **Judith Gentry** were inducted as Fellow; **Dr. Gloria Giarratano** and **Dr. Deborah Garbee** were inducted as Master Teacher; and **Dr. Jane Sumner** was inducted as Teaching Scholar. The Academy provides members with educational programs and resources for continued educational excellence and scholarship. Interprofessional collaborative opportunities are available.

The first Academy Retreat was held on March 5, 2008, at LSUHSC. It was led by Dr. Sheila Chauvin and Academy Advisory Board members. The retreat was well attended by Academy members and provided direction for future events. The retreat served as a stimulus for ideas for collaborative educational scholarship and the upcoming call for proposals for Academy Small Grants that are due by April 18, 2008. The Academy for the Advancement of Educational Scholarship plans another call for membership applications later this year.

The LSUHSC School of Nursing, Office of Student Affairs is proud to announce that a total of 182 student scholars made the Dean's Honor List for the fall 2007 semester.
The following honor students listed are grouped by program:

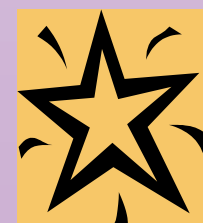
BSN Program

Ellison Abad
Justina Ameloko
Jennifer Andrus
Jenna Balamane
Irielle Banks
Brandy Barbarin
Stacey Barrois
Stephanie Benedic
Janci Bienvenu
Lauren Black
Haley Blanchard
Amy Blouin
Emily Bodin
Lindsey Bourgeois
Lorie Bourgeois
Victoria Bracey
Erica Bragg
Katherine Brown
Caitlin Burger
Jessica Cardinale
Michelle Cenac
Courtney Chatelain
Lauren Clifford
Stephanie Cone
Lacey Courtade
John Covington
Amy Cristina
Leslie Currier
David Davis
Jennifer Davis
Kendi DiLorenzo
Caroline Donahue
Jennifer Donsbach
Tara Doyle
Ashley Duncan
Taryn Eilers
Jacqueline Esquivel
Callie Estes
Ann Fabre
Vivian Faessler
Laura Fendick
Jake Fontenot
Natalie Fontenot
Grayson Ford
Kelli Ford
Faith Friedman
Brittney Furca
Luke Fuselier
Kristin Fuxan
Elise Givens
Cynthia Gleason

Adrienne Goodwin
Sarah Gordon
Frederick Grant
Anna Grimsley
Lucas Gruwell
Lindsay Guerin
Richard Guthrie
Emily Harris
Melissa Harris
Magen Hemstad
Ashlie Hof
Kelly Hogan
Rochelle Holm
Lauren Hopkins
Margaret Hoppenstedt
Lauren Jackson
Lindsay Jarreau
Julie Jenkins
Jordan Jones
Julia Jones
Christine Joubert
Jared Juban
Jenna Kelly
Erin Kernaghan
Tracey Kersten
Lori Lampard
Cassie Lavigne
Huong Le
Phuc Le
Kasey Lentini
Aimee Lestelle
Ashley Liberto
Elisabeth Lifsey
Jennifer Loats
Stephanie Locantro
Renee Loupe
Janis Malaki
Abbie Malbrough
Jessica Matthews
Shelly May
Jessica Mayer
Kelsey Merrick
Lauren Mesman
Maria Miller
Julia Mirabile
Kristen Mire
Morgan Montelaro
Sarah Mundy
Brittany Navo
Anna Nesom
Jessica Nicholson

CARE Program

Brooke Basiri
Kortney Belou
Randall Brownlee
Renee Callais
Stacy Dufour
Loy Ernst
Ashley Hebert
Carmen Kiehm
Catherine Knoll
Jan Landry
Elizabeth Lang
Mary Anne Livaccari
Michelle Macaluso
Sarah Mason
Michelle Mayeur
Jennifer Memmezzwattay
Vi Nguyen
Courtney Noles
Melissa Pitts
Raymond Pregeant
Natalya Rostovshchikova
Melissa Semar
January Sintuphant
Jennifer Stelly
Mary Stone
Stephanie Subervielle
Kristin Tamberella
Tiffany Thomas
Jennifer Thompson Falla
Angelle Vosburg
Chastity Waddle
Melissa Weese
Gerren Wilson





From left to right: Jennifer Donsbach, Ashley Duncan, Angie Plateo, Erin Tweedy, Katherine Brown

Sigma Theta Tau Inducts New Members

On March 13, 2008, Jacqueline Favret presided over the 2008 Sigma Theta Tau Epsilon Nu Chapter annual induction of new members at the Plimsoll Club. Dean Demetrius Porche welcomed the inductees and their families. The keynote speaker was Nancy Davis, Senior Vice President and Systems Chief Nursing Officer for Ochsner Medical Center, who addressed "Scholarship in Practice."

The new inductees are: Jenna Balamane, Steven Blanchard, Joelle A. Bourgeois, Tracy Broussard, Katherine Brown, Nicole Bruno, John Covington, Jina Curtis, Derek Gavin Davis, Jennifer Donsbach, Deidra B. Dudley, Ashley Duncan, Jacqueline Esquivel, Kelli Ford, Luke Fuselier, Meghan Haerer, Mary Kay Harvey, Joanne Hebert, Mattie Hobley,

Shelley Holcomb, Margaret Hoppenstedt, Caroline Horner, Lauren Hymel, Jenna Kelly, Tiffany Lavergne, Michele Lawhorn, Mary Anne Livacciai, Jennifer Loats, Michelle Macaluso, Connie A. McKnight, Kelsey Merrick, Stephanie Mills, Amanda Murphy, Leslie F. Nolden, Kimberly Peterson, Angie Plateo, Amanda Richard, Randy Lynn Rosamond, Lesley R. Rye, Marie Childs Sandi, Shannon Smiley, Stephanie Subervielle, Carolina Tefel, Erin Frolich Tweedy, Lois Williams Whitley, Amy Wright, Barbara Zeugner.

Epsilon Nu Chapter Officers are: Jacqueline Favret, President; Dr. Diana Douglas, Vice-President; Tina Covington, Secretary; Dr. Denise Danna, Treasurer; Ann Byerly, Baccalaureate Counselor; Dr. Shelley Jeanfreau, Graduate/Community Counselor.

Congratulations to...

- **Dr. Celeste Carter**, whose presentation Hurricane Katrina Related Demise of a New Orleans Based Program Which Provided Free Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening to Low Income Minority Women will be presented at the National Association of Hispanic Nurses 33rd Annual Meeting and Conference, which will be held in July, 2008, in Boston, MA, and also at the Gamma Lambda/Nursing Constituency Society Research Day Celebrating the 40 Year Anniversary of the School of Nursing. Dr. Carter has also been selected to participate in the NLN Scholarly Writing Retreat, which will take place April 4-6, 2008, at the University of Connecticut.
- **Dr. O. Danny Lee**, who is now a Certified Nurse Educator (CNE)
- **Dr. Kathleen Moisiewicz**, whose abstract, "Data Poems in Qualitative Research", was accepted for presentation at the Gamma Lambda/Nursing Constituency Society Research Day Celebrating the 40 Year Anniversary of the School of Nursing
- **Dr. Jennifer Couvillon**, whose abstract, "High Tech Versus High Touch", was accepted for presentation at the Implementing Innovations with Technology Twenty-Sixth Annual International Nursing Computer and Technology Conference hosted by Rutgers University in Las Vegas, June 4-7, 2008.
- **Dr. Jane Sumner**, whose abstract, "Caring In Nursing From Theory to Instrumentation and Practice", was accepted for presentation at the Sigma Theta Tau International 19th International Nursing Research Congress Focusing on Evidence-Based Practice in Singapore.
- **Dr. Dianna Douglas** and **Dr. Susan Rick**. Their abstract, "The Science of Resilience: Evidence to Interventions", has been accepted for the Sigma Theta Tau International 19th International Nursing Research Congress Focusing on Evidence-Based Practice in Singapore.

Student Spotlight



Shane Grant

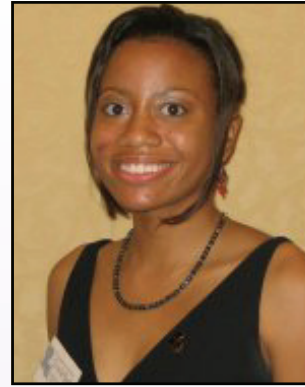
Shane Grant is a non-traditional student who came to nursing school with a strong desire to serve the community. He was a 15-year veteran volunteer firefighter and Emergency Medical Technician, which spawned his interest in the nursing pro-

fession. Shane's decision to change careers was not taken lightly, as evident by the statement, "If it's worth doing, then it's worth doing right."

Upon entering LSUHSC School of Nursing, Shane's self-sacrificing manner was apparent to his fellow nursing students. He went beyond the call of duty as the Student Government President to help incoming students ease the transition into LSUHSC School of Nursing.

Further, Shane demonstrates qualities that every nurse should possess, such as compassion, nobility, honesty, and trustworthiness. Shane's leadership qualities are apparent through his involvement in several student organizations and School of Nursing committees such as Student Government Association, Student Nurses Association, American Assembly for Men in Nursing, Student Tech Fee Committee, Student Technology Committee, and Student Interest Committee. He is currently the Executive President of the Student Government Association of LSUHSC School of Nursing and the Vice President of the Senior II class.

In the past, he held positions at the Louisiana State Nurses Association as the Region IV Director and was the Parliamentarian on the Student Government Executive Council. Shane continuously volunteers and tries to advocate for the citizens within the struggling New Orleans community. Examples of his various activities are the YMCA Trim Kids, Step Out to Fight Diabetes, March of Dimes Walk for a Cure, blood drives, and Dr. Seuss B-Day. Shane was also nominated by fellow classmates as the king of the SGA Nightingale Ball based on his strong admiration for the nursing profession. Shane leads by example not only as a student and leader in LSUHSC School of Nursing but also within the community.



Irielle Banks

Upon meeting the soft spoken and reserved **Irielle Banks**, she does not fit the stereotypical template of an innovative leader, but she paved new ground as an exceptional and effective leader throughout her time at LSUHSC

School of Nursing.

She reflects many qualities and concepts of what nursing is today. Irielle displays leadership qualities in her role as the Nurses Christian Fellowship President, Louisiana Student Nurses Association (LASN) State Treasurer, LASN Horizon's Editor, and LSUHSC School of Nursing Student Nurses Association Vice President.

Irielle exemplifies what it is to be a LSUHSC nursing student leader through remaining involved in school activities while maintaining her grades. She was honored on the Dean's List in 2007. Her school spirit is evident through her participation in the Student Government Association (SGA) and extracurricular activities such as the Nightingale Ball, the annual SGA Crawfish Boil, and class level activities such as bake sales, shirt sales, and Student Take Part (STP) Week. She is a valuable asset to the school and a true role model for other LSUHSC School of Nursing students.

Q-TIPS

Welcome to Q-TIPS, a new column designed to keep you informed about quality at the LSUHSC School of Nursing. I'm **Toni Cascio**, and my job is to develop a quality program just for us.

My job at the School of Nursing is new, so I'm exploring uncharted territory as I learn how all the pieces fit. Ultimately, my work will reflect our new emphasis on addressing complex quality issues using an organized, user-friendly approach.

All of this is a little vague right now, but that's OK. As with so many other challenges in life, it'll take time to figure out what we need to do and how we need to do it. But the effort will be worth it at the end of the day. Stay tuned for an update in our next newsletter ...

School of Nursing Submits Federal Grant Proposals

As part of its continued post-Katrina rebuilding and re-birth as a center of nursing excellence, the LSUHSC School of Nursing, through its Office of Nursing Research, Scholarship, and Science (ONRSS), submitted a total of nine grant proposals to the U.S. Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA) near the end of 2007.

HRSA, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, consists of six bureaus that are tasked with improving access to health care and providing leadership and financial support to health care providers in every state and U.S. territory. HRSA's nursing programs, among other things, address the nation's registered nurse shortage by supporting nurse education, practice and retention.

Five of the grant proposals submitted by ONRSS target HRSA's Nurse Education, Practice and Retention (NEPR) program and include topics such as nursing informatics, enhancement of nurses' work environment, and establishment of a nurse residency program. Two additional proposals were directed to Title VIII Health Professions Training and deal with advanced education nursing and nursing workforce diversity. Title VIII refers to a section of the Health Professions Education Partnership Act, whose purpose is to address the failure of the market to assure adequate access to healthcare providers for all Americans. Under the auspices of HRSA, Title VIII of this Act addresses primary care medical, nursing, physician assistant and dental work forces. Federal support for nursing education and practice under Title VIII spans over forty years.

The remaining two proposals, also part of Title VIII Health Professions Training, address the Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship and the Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship programs. Program durations run from one to five years and, combined, the submitted proposals total over \$7 millions dollars.

Additional proposals to be submitted over the next few months by ONRSS include HRSA's Title VIII Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP), Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (Building Healthy Teen Relationships) the National League for Nursing (Innovations in Clinical Teaching and Evaluation), and individual faculty applications to the American Nursing Foundation. Faculty, staff and students are always welcome to suggest topics for research and grant support.

Practice Priorities: 1. Academic Based Resource Center, Dr Margaret Tennyson, Project Director; **Retention Priorities:** 2. RN to BSN, Dr. Jane Sumner, Project Director; 3. Enhancing Nurse Work Environment, Dr Denise Danna, Project Director

Education: 4. Nurse Residency, Dr Marsha J. Ben-

nett, Project Director; 5. Informatics, Dr Marsha J. Bennett, Project Director

Title VIII Health Professions Training

6. Advanced Education Nursing-High Tech, High Touch, Dr. Jennifer Couvillon, Project Director; 7. Nursing Workforce Diversity – RISE – Recreating and Instructing Students in Excellence, Ms. Khaleelah Hasan, Project Director; **Traineeships/Assistantships:** 8. Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship Program, Ms. Laura Bonanno, Project Director; 9. Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship (AENT), Dr. Marsha Bennett, Project Director.

LSUHSC School of Nursing Student Nurses' Association News

The Student Nurses' Association had a great fall semester! Members volunteered for several community events such as Boo at the Zoo, Step Out to Fight Diabetes, Great 100 Nurses, and the No Aids Walk.

Eight students were elected to the Louisiana Association of Student Nurses' Board of Directors. The following students will serve on the 2007-2008 Board: Jill Acosta Reynolds (Presidential Consultant); Kim Guidry (Elected Consultant); Irielle Banks (Horizons Editor); Jamie Byrd (Breakthrough to Nursing/Membership Director); Stephanie Benedic (Special Events Coordinator); Sarah Chase (Treasurer); Marci Kay Livingston (Region IV Director); and Gina McCormick (Secretary).

Officer elections were held to replace graduating seniors Kim Guidry, Jenny Theriot, and Brittany Bodine. The new 2008 officers are Stephanie Benedic (President); Irielle Banks (Vice-president); Jennifer Davis (Secretary); Gina McCormick (Treasurer); Bryce Mansfield (Historian); Justin Wooley (Historian); Marci Kay Livingston (Community Service); Carly Powell (Community Service); Shivas Gilotra (Breakthrough to Nursing Director); Jamie Byrd (Breakthrough to Nursing Director); and Sarah Chase (Guest Speaker Coordinator). Faculty advisors to the Student Nurses' Association are Mrs. Sally Ruel and Mrs. Marirose Bernard.

The Student Nurses' Association is looking forward to another great spring semester. The group plans to participate in several community service events and the National Student Nurses' Association National Convention in Grapevine, Texas.

For current information about the LSU Student Nurses' Association, please visit the SNA web page at <http://nursing.lsuhs.edu>.

LSUHSC Anesthesia Team Brings Quality Care and Mardi Gras to Guatemalan Patients

A team comprising LSUHSC Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs), Student Registered Nurse Anesthetists (SRNAs) and an Anesthesiologist volunteered their time and expertise to patients in a hospital in Antigua, Guatemala, in mid-January.

The LSUHSC team was part of the 2008 Knoxville Medical Mission which traveled to the Hermano Pedro Hospital, a hospital dedicated to indigent care. The team, bearing Mardi Gras beads and throws as well as socks, shoes, and health care items, spent a very busy week providing quality anesthesia services to individuals of low income families ranging in age from 10 months to 70+ years old. The group, which included **Laura Bonanno CRNA**, Acting Program Director of the LSUHSC Nurse Anesthesia Program, **Tracy Broussard SRNA**, **Ronda Flower MD**, **Wendy Smith CRNA**, and **April Tanner SRNA**, also helped to educate and train hospital medical providers.

On Sunday, the team organized and stocked four operating rooms and screened patients scheduled for surgery. Monday through Friday were very busy operating days. They performed 80 surgical cases, working with a variety of surgeons, including a general surgeon, gynecologist, urologist, and a plastic surgeon. The surgical procedures included laparoscopic cholecystectomies (gallbladder removal), hernia repairs, cleft lip and palate repairs, hysterectomies and prostate surgeries. Medical supplies, financial support and surgical services were provided at no cost to the people of Antigua.

The Knoxville Medical Mission began 8 years ago out of a desire to provide quality medical/surgical care to patients who would otherwise go without. LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans became involved four years ago as a way to give back and also to provide a different teaching experience for students. "The smiles on the faces of the patients we cared for was incredibly rewarding," noted **Laura Bonanno, CRNA**. "Many of the patients had been waiting for their surgeries for over a year."

Nursing Annual Luncheon

Network with Friends, Board Elections, & Alumnus of the Year Announced

Speaker: **Barbara La Graize Morvant, MN '76, BSN '73, RN**
Louisiana State Board of Nursing, Executive Director
"Regulation of Nursing Practice: Challenges and Choices"

Windsor Court Hotel, 300 Gravier Street, New Orleans
Saturday, June 21, 2008, 11:30–2:00pm

Alumnus of the Year Nomination by May 30, 2008
RSVP or Board Nominations by June 10, 2008

Contact: Wanda Joseph 504-568-4115

Check Payable to: LSUHSC Nursing Alumni \$40.00 per person
1900 Gravier Street Box G-4, New Orleans, La 70112

Pay It Backwards: Support LSUHSC School of Nursing

Lisa Schulmeister, RN, MN, APRN-BC, OCN®, FAAN LSUHSC MN Class of 1984

When we suspected that our daughter had broken her ankle at a soccer tournament, nurses who graduated from LSUHSC took care of her in the emergency department. LSUHSC grads were there again when a neighbor had his gallbladder taken out, and it was an LSUHSC grad who taught a friend of mine how to bathe her newborn baby. I'm a LSUHSC alumnus as well, and collectively we deliver a great deal of the nursing care that is provided in Louisiana and beyond. Although there are 7000+ of us, few of us support LSUHSC School of Nursing and its Alumni Association.

Supporting LSUHSC and joining the Alumni Association are ways to give back to LSUHSC and help ensure that LSUHSC grads will be there to provide nursing care in the future. If you're thinking that you can't afford to support LSUHSC, actually you can. Bypass the vending machine or coffee house for a week or two and donate the money saved to LSUHSC. Plan to give to LSUHSC when your next paycheck arrives (would you be receiving this paycheck if not for LSUHSC?). Have a donation billed to your credit card each month; it's easy to donate when you spread your payments out over time. Include LSUHSC in your will.

You can also raise money for LSUHSC. Sponsor a mini fundraiser at your workplace. Sell baked goods, have a raffle, hold a contest. Find out who else is an LSUHSC grad and pass the hat (or bedpan) and make a group donation.

LSUHSC was there for you when you needed a nursing education or advanced nursing degree. Now it's your turn to be there for LSUHSC.

For further information about making a donation, contact the Office of the Dean at 504-568-4106. Donations can be mailed to: LSUHSC School of Nursing, Dr. Demetrius Porche, Office of the Dean, 1900 Gravier Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

Upcoming Alumni Events

Grand Reunion

Pat O'Brien's on the River
Sept 13, 2008

End of the Year Celebration

LSU Nursing School
Dec 9, 2008

Research Update: Identifying Message Relevance of a Tailored Interactive DVD to Uninsured Women Non-Adherent with Mammography in the Louisiana Area

Funded by the Louisiana Cancer Research Consortium, LSUHSC School of Nursing has partnered with Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine to address one of the leading causes of morbidity and mortality, especially for the uninsured breast cancer patient. The purpose of this study is to determine the behavioral health messages, cultural characteristics, message style, and locality parameters requiring adaptation to have relevance for Gulf South uninsured women who are non-adherent with annual mammography (UWNAM). The specific aims include: 1) to evaluate the relevance of the behavioral messages to mammography decision making among UWNAM; 2) to examine the cultural context, message style, and geographic setting of the breast cancer screening messages projected by the existing vignettes to UWNAM; 3) to compare beliefs of urban and rural UWNAM relevant to mammography messages; 4) to determine the accessibility and navigation ease of the DVD as factors that affect utilization among UWNAM. The study will include 64 participants between the ages of 41 and 75, including 32 participants from rural settings and 32 participants from urban areas. This study will be conducted in two phases. Phase I will include two community advocate focus groups, including health care providers, clinic office personnel, and key community leaders. Phase II will include four UWNAM focus groups with African American and Caucasian participants. LSUHSC Faculty/Staff participants include **Gloria Giarratano, APRN, PhD**, (Principal Investigator), and **Angelita Brown, MS** (Research Assistant). Tulane Faculty/Staff include **Maureen Lichtveld, MD, MPH** (Principal Investigator) and Study Coordinator **Farah Arosemena, MPH**.

MCLNO and LSUHSC Memorandum of Understanding

LSUHSC School of Nursing has entered an agreement with the **Medical Center of Louisiana at New Orleans (MCLNO)** to provide clinical nursing instruction to School of Nursing students when there is not enough current faculty to meet the demands of clinical nurse instruction. Due to the increase enrollment in the Baccalaureate Nursing Programs (Traditional, RN to BSN & Career Alternative RN Education [CARE]), this Memorandum of Understanding between LSUHSC School of Nursing and MCLNO provides a vital contingency of clinical nurses available to meet the clinical instruction needs of the School of Nursing. We would like to thank **Dr. Thomas, CEO of MCLNO**, and his staff for their efforts in providing a mechanism to assist the School of Nursing with the clinical nurse instruction needs of the

Novice Researchers Emerge

In December, 2007, we had two doctoral candidates successfully defend their dissertations. Annette Knobloch successfully defended her dissertation entitled, *Development and Testing of an Instrument to Measure Parent and Caregiver Child Passenger Safety Knowledge, Attitude, Practice and Consistency*. Also in December, Debra Walker defended her dissertation, *How Competency Is Operationalized for Registered Nurses in the Adult Medical Surgical Acute Care Setting*. Three doctoral candidates successfully defended in March, 2008: Donna Trimm, *Process of Maintaining Balance During the Surgical Wait*; Karen Rice, *Nurses' Recognition of Delirium in the Hospitalized Older Adult*; and Martha Jane Fayland, *Mapping the Literature: A Bibliometric Analysis of Evidence Based Practice Literature in English Language Nursing Journals*. Congratulations to all!

School Awarded Promise of Nursing Grant

The School of Nursing at LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans has been awarded a "Promise of Nursing for Louisiana Nursing School" grant by the Louisiana Nurses Foundation and Johnson & Johnson to help address the nursing shortage in Louisiana and particularly the New Orleans area.

The \$25,000 grant will finance the development and implementation of a preceptorship recruitment and training program to add adjunct clinical faculty for both the undergraduate and advanced practice LSUHSC nursing programs. An increase in faculty will allow a corresponding increase in admissions for qualified students. The co-principal investigators on the grant are LSUHSC nursing faculty members **Laura Bonanno** and **Vickie Jordan**.



Continuing Education Department

The LSUHSC School of Nursing Faculty Development Department (FDD) includes Continuing Nursing Education, Faculty Development, and Entrepreneurial Nursing activities. Thirty-five educational programs were conducted by the FDD from January, 2007, through November, 2007. The programs were attended by over 800 registered nurses, with 3,956 contact hours awarded. The faculty development component of the department has been expanded, with two fall programs presented to faculty per their requests. The newest focus of this department, Entrepreneurial Nursing activities, has begun in coordination with **Dr. Denise Danna**, Acting Associate Dean of Professional Practice and Clinical Services. **Ms. Babs Kearney** and **Ms. Laura Tarcza** each have been with the Faculty Development Department for over eight years, along with **Ms. Mary McAvoy**, Administrative Assistant 2, who has been with the department for seven months.

School of Nursing Prepares for CCNE Reaccreditation

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center New Orleans School of Nursing School is currently preparing for re-accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Since the last accreditation in 1999 there have been many changes at the School, including the SON re-location to Baton Rouge and return to New Orleans, a new Dean and Associate Deans, many new faculty, revision of the undergraduate curriculum, and approval of the CARE and RN to Master's tracks. Also, there are new specialty tracks in the Master's Program, the SON has a new strategic plan, and a new organizational chart (final approval pending). It is a challenge to capture all that we have accomplished in the Self-Study Report. There are also changes at CCNE and after a comprehensive review, CCNE has revised the *Standards for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs* with final approval and release expected in April of 2008.

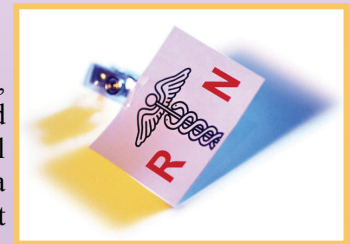
The CCNE site visit is scheduled for March 2 – March 4, 2009. The revised accreditation standards are available at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Accreditation/pdf/ProposeBacGradStndrds.pdf>. Comments may be submitted to CCNE in writing concerning an educational program's qualifications for accreditation status: Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036.

Grant Update: The Future Nurse Institute

The LSUHSC School of Nursing's Future Nurse Institute (FNI), funded by HRSA, continues to make a positive impact on Greater New Orleans area minority and disadvantaged students who are interested in pursuing a career in nursing. After several months of careful planning, recruiting, and selecting twenty seniors and juniors from area public and private high schools, the FNI program has kicked off. The parent and student orientation program was well attended with 100% participation.

The KUMON Learning Center, under the direction of Dr. Joe Omojola, will provide the ten junior FNI students the opportunity for ACT/SAT preparation as well as math and science enhancement instruction over a twelve week period. The ten selected senior FNI participants will explore the intriguing world of nursing in six very comprehensive sessions, with topics including a historical look at nursing, health and nutritional assessment, CPR, college application assistance and advising, and "Teens Not Gone Wild" presented by Anne Troy. The students will also have hands on simulation experience.

The mission of the LSUHSC School of Nursing FNI is to provide a comprehensive program of recruitment and retention for minority and disadvantaged students interested in the nursing profession. The goal of the institute is to successfully prepare and mentor minority and disadvantaged students during their pre-nursing and nursing school education. Faculty members participating in the FNI include **Sharon Kappel** (Project Director), **Khaleelah Hasan** (Project Coordinator), **Dr. O. Danny Lee** (Educator/Recruiter), **Dr. Celeste Carter** (Educator), **Karen Grant** (Educator/Recruiter), and **Angelita Brown** (Program Manager).



LSUHSC School of Nursing Hosts National Conference

The American Assembly for Men In Nursing will hold its 33rd National Conference in New Orleans, October 24-25, 2008. The conference will be hosted by the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing in New Orleans. The theme will be "Men in Nursing: Another Way of Caring" and Becky Patton, president of the American Nurses' Association, will be the Key Note Speaker. There is a call for abstracts through April 30, 2008.

Registration forms and other information may be obtained at the organization's web site www.aamn.org. Hotel accommodations will be provided by Le Pavillon Hotel, 833 Poydras Street, New Orleans, LA, 70112.

Contact information: 800-535-9095, 504-581-3111 (local); Fax 504-620-4130; <http://www.lepavillon.com>.



LSU Faculty Attend Geriatric Nursing Education Consortium Program: Enhancing Gerontology Content in Baccalaureate Courses

We are an aging people. Currently much of ALL health care is devoted to the care of older adults. Specifically, 57% of all visits to a generalist physician or nurse practitioner, 50% of hospital expenditure, 80% of home care visits, and 90% of nursing home care are for the care of older adults. When hospitalized, older adults are the citizens most at risk for long length of stays, readmissions, and high emergency room visits. Despite these statistics, there are no national gerontological/geriatric certification requirements for RN's working with this population, no national scopes and standards for care of older adults, and no Magnet or JCAHO requirements for staff competence in care of older adults.

To that end, the GNEC (Geriatric Nursing Education Consortium) was created. The GNEC is an AACN administered project funded by the John A. Hartford Foundation through a \$2.6 million grant. The Project objective is to educate faculty at a majority of the baccalaureate schools of nursing across the country in the fundamentals of geriatric nursing and the use of geriatric curriculum resources. Their aim is to increase threaded gerontology content in existing junior and senior level nursing courses as well as help faculty create a stand-alone Gerontology course in the Senior Two semester, support and empower "trained" faculty as they champion geriatric education, train other faculty and oversee curriculum revision, and provide faculty with innovative resources to prepare BSN educated nurses with the expertise and enthusiasm to care for older adults.

Two LSUHSC School of Nursing faculty members, **Ellen Beyer and Marjorie Kraus**, recently attended the GNEC training, **Enhancing Gerontology Content in Baccalaureate Courses**, in San Antonio, Texas. Materials including power point slides, web enhanced lesson plans, case studies, and test questions available in areas such as critical thinking, atypical presentations, urinary for adult health, dementia and delirium, heart disease, diabetes, cancer, critical care, mental health, and geriatric resources. We hope to arrange for additional faculty to attend this important workshop.

Faculty Publications

Garbee, D. D. & Killacky, J. (2008). Factors influencing intent to stay in academia for nursing faculty in the southern United States of America. *International Journal of Nursing Education Scholarship*, 5(1), 1-15.

Conrad, E., Townsend, M., & **Buccola, N.** (2008) Restoration of mental health services in New Orleans. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 165 (1): 33

Sanders, A., Duan, J., Levinson, D., Shi, J., He, D., Hou, C., Rice, J., Nertney, D., Olincy, A., Rozic, P., Vinogradov, S., **Buccola, N.**, Mowry, B., Freedman, R., Amin, F., Black, D., Silverman, J., Byerley, W., Crowe, R., Cloniger, C., Martinez, & M., Gejman, P. (2008) No significant association of 14 candidate genes with schizophrenia in a large European ancestry sample: Implications for psychiatric genetics. *AJP in Advance*, January 15, 2008, 1-10

Porche, D. & Danna, D. (2008) Business plan: An entrepreneurial proposal. *Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 4 (3): 173-174

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LSUHSC School of Nursing—Mission Statement
The mission of LSUHSC School of Nursing is to provide local, national and international leadership in the education of professional nurses to function as generalists, advance practitioners, educators, scholars, and researchers who shape the delivery of nursing practice and education. The mission is accomplished through clinically relevant teaching, learning, and practice in culturally diverse settings, community service, and research which builds the science of nursing. Faculty embrace and honor the scholarship domains of discovery, teaching and integration as foundational to the development of professional knowledge. Educational mobility and continuing education programs are provided for nursing professionals and citizens of the community through traditional and innovative methods.

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