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 (LSU HSC) 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 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 LSU HSC nursing students are active board members of the Louisiana Association of Student Nurses. LSU HSC 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 LSU HSC School of Nursing strategic map can be viewed at http://nursing.lsuhsc.edu/AboutUs/StrategicMap.html. The central challenge presented in the strategic map is to strengthen and promote LSU HSC 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 interprofessional 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 LSU HSC.
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 it’s 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 reinstituted 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.lsuhsc.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**

Adrienne Goodwin  Sarah Gordon  Frederick Grant  Angela Grimesley  Lindsay Guerin  Rachel Guthrie  Emily Harris  Melissa Harris  Magen Hemstedt  Lauren Hopkins  Margaret Hoppenstedt  Lindsey 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  Kasay Lenti  Ashley Libert  Elisabeth Lifsey  Jennifer Lois  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 Nava  Anna Nesom  Jessica Nicholson

Amanda Nickels  Rebecca Nobles  Rachel Nunnaker  Hannah Parden  Angie Plateo  Claire Poonson  Paige Popich  Jennifer Prat  Bethany Rich  Amanda Richard  Samantha Richardson  Rebecca Riche  Stephanie Robichaux  Maycie Rutkeber  Katherine Ryan  Hoan Sam  Elizabeth Schenxiilder  Mia Schexnayder-Davis  Benjamin Schuler  Amy Schulin  Matt Seamster  Tanya Shuaider  Alicia Shropshire  Daniel Smith  Emily Smith  Renee Smith  Christina Spezio  Jordan Stratton  Ashley Swaney  Therese Taibot  Leslie Taylor  Danielle Theriot  Dayna Toscano  Fatoumata Traore-Gele  Candace Trosclair  Tiffany Tusa  Erin Tweedy  Ashley Vinett  Dana Waguespack  Onesha Williams  Stephanie Williams  Dorothy Winfree  Andrea Wixt  Ashley Wooderson  Justin Wooley  Amy Wright  Michael Zemke  Lauren Zichichi

**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  Janary Sintaphant  Jennifer Stelly  Mary Stone  Stephanie Subervielle  Kristin Tamberella  Tiffany Thomas  Jennifer Thompson Falla  Angelie Vosburg  Charistry Waddle  Melissa Weese  Gerren Wilson
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 Gavín 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 Livaccai, Jennifer Louts, 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.
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. Bennett, Project Director; 5. Informatics, Dr Marsha J. Bennett, Project Director

Title VIII Health Professions Training


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 Guiddy (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 Guiddy, 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.lsuhsc.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, hysterecomies 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.”

Pay It Backwards: Support LSUHSC School of Nursing

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 alumna 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. Demetrios 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

Nursing Annual Luncheon

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

Speaker: Barbara Le 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

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 alumna 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.

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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 Trimn, 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 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/ProposeBacGradStndrd.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).

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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 ISN 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.

Spring 2008 Newsletter Contributing Authors: Dr. Marsha Bennett, Angie Brown, Nancy Buccola, Leslie Capo, Toni Cacic, Dr. Jennifer Couvillon, Dr. Denise Danna, Jackie Favret, Dr. Deborah Garbee, Geremie Loupe, Barbara Kearney, Marjorie Kraus, Dr. O. Danny Lee, Jamie Lopez, LSU Student Nurses’ Association, Lisa Schulmeister

Faculty Publications


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.

Visit our web site
http://nursing.lsuhsc.edu/Continuing Education/ Continuing Education.html

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