

LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing

Leaders Defining the Art & Science of Nursing

Spring 2012



Message From the Dean

Demetrius J. Porche, DNS, PhD, APRN, FAANP, FAAN

As the spring semester becomes history and we prepare to move into the summer and fall semesters, the School of Nursing faculty, staff, and students are steadily moving our strategic agenda forward to emerge as a national leader. In this newsletter, you will have the opportunity to learn of the many exciting accomplishments of our nursing faculty and students. The School of Nursing has been recognized as an affiliate center of the Joanna Briggs Institute. Through this affiliate center, our nursing school will have 15 faculty members who are trained to collaborate with our health care partners to conduct systematic reviews that generate the best evidence to improve nursing practice. In addition, our faculty will engage in systematic reviews with other schools at LSU Health New Orleans in a collaborative manner to engage our students into the scholarly inquiry for best evidence that improves nursing practice and ultimately, patient outcomes.

We are pleased to announce that our School of Nursing has received approval to offer the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree. This will be the second doctoral degree and fifth nursing degree that we are approved to offer for nurses to pursue their educational goals. Our faculty and staff are actively finishing the curriculum plans, finishing plans to admit our first cohort of DNP students, and preparing for accreditation of our DNP programs.

Our nurse managed clinic has opened. We are beginning to offer free continuing nursing education that educates nurses and nursing student to deliver safe, quality, and culturally competent care to vulnerable groups and communities during the disaster preparedness and response cycle.

Our nursing students remain successful with NCLEX-RN first time passing rates above 98% and advanced practice nursing students with national certification rates above 95%, with some at 100% certification rates. Two primary care family nurse practitioner students, Simone Stewart and Nikki Hunter, have represented our School of Nursing at the AACN's Student Policy Summit in Washington, DC. In addition, about 20 of our undergraduate nursing students will represent our School of Nursing at the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA) annual conference. The students attending the NSNA conference will be proud to receive, on behalf of our nursing school, the NSNA recognition as a Stellar Nursing School. Enjoy reading our newsletter to learn about these and many more great activities occurring at LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing, the ONLY nursing school within an academic health sciences center that "defines the art and science of nursing."



Tiger Nursing Times

School of Nursing BSN Students Receive Scholarships

Louisiana Nursing Foundation Woodward Nursing Scholarship

Three LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing BSN students have been awarded 2011 Louisiana Nursing Foundation (LNF) Woodward Nursing Scholarships beginning in the fall 2011 semester. Shayna Hogan, Craig Redgrave, and Caitlin Yerkes will each receive financial support for two semesters. The LNF Woodward Nursing Scholarship Selection Committee reports that the selection process was highly competitive, given that there were over sixty applicants from throughout Louisiana representing fourteen different nursing programs. Shayna, Craig, and Caitlin were three of eight students to receive the scholarships. Students interested in applying for future LNF Woodward Nursing Scholarships should visit <http://www.lsna.org/woodard-scholarship.html> for information about the application process.

Health Resources and Services Administration's Nursing Scholarship Program

LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing BSN student Kelly Sciple was selected as a recipient of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Nursing Scholarship. The HRSA Nursing Scholarship Program awards scholarships to students enrolled or accepted for enrollment in accredited RN training programs. Scholarship recipients receive tuition, fees, other educational costs, and a living stipend in exchange for at least two years of post graduation service at a health care facility with a critical shortage of nurses. Prospective scholars should visit www.hrsa.gov/loanscholarships/scholarships/Nursing to learn more about the program and begin the application process.

LSU Vein Care Team to Conduct Free Screenings

To show their appreciation for nurses, free varicose vein screenings will be offered by the LSU Vein Care Team. The team will provide assessments for faculty, staff, alumni, and current nursing students. The assessment will include a venous ultrasound and recommendations for follow-up care. The free screenings will take place on Tuesday, May 8th from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm in the School of Nursing Hospital Lab.

The LSU Vein Care Team consists of School of Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner Program alumnus Robyn Givens, board certified vascular surgeons, and registered vascular technicians who offer varicose vein treatment options, including endovenous laser therapy. This particular treatment option treats chronic venous insufficiency by delivering laser energy through a small puncture in the leg close to the diseased vein. The entire procedure is performed in less than one hour in the physician's office. The LSU Vein Care team also provides patients with the latest, most innovative treatments for spider veins occurring on the face and legs.

SNA Update

by Amanda Ippolito, Meghan O'Quinn, and Kira Riches

The Student Nurses' Association (SNA) is a community service organization open to all nursing students. The mission of LSU Health New Orleans SNA is to enhance nursing education through community service activities that promote social and professional development. SNA is a thrilling way to get to know your classmates outside of the classroom and clinicals and do something rewarding for your community at the same time. The fall semester of 2011 was a very busy one for our SNA and the spring semester is starting out eventful as well.

On August 22nd, a representative from the Louisiana Organ Procurement Agency (LOPA), a federally-designated organ procurement organization for the State of Louisiana, spoke at our monthly SNA meeting. The agency focuses on educating the medical community and general public about organ and tissue donation issues, working with families through the donation process, recovering donated organs and tissue, and placing the organs and tissue for transplant. At the end of the meeting, the representative gave everyone the opportunity to become organ and tissue donors and 35 people signed up!

On September 1st, SNA volunteers donated their time in a concession stand during a Saints home game to raise money to help children worldwide. Proceeds benefited the International Hospital for



Children, a hospital without walls whose mission is to provide healthcare to all children regardless of their social, ethnic, religious background or status. The organization works to improve the quality of health for people living in developing countries and provides aid to victims of natural disasters, wars, and civil unrest.



On September 17th, SNA volunteers helped celebrate the Louisiana Children's Museum's 25th birthday. Volunteers helped the children create newspaper party hats and taught about the history of the building in the *New Orleans: Proud to Call it Home* architecture exhibit. Volunteers also participated in a birthday party second-line ending at a giant birthday cake where they sang *Happy Birthday* to the museum.

On September 19th, SNA hosted a blood drive with Ochsner. So many people came to donate blood that a line was formed outside of the cafeteria. Sixty-eight people attempted to donate and fifty-six units were collected -168 lives were saved in that one day!

Plaquemines Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) is a no-kill shelter that takes in homeless pets, vaccinates and microchips them, makes sure they are healthy, and puts them up for adoption. On September 30th, SNA volunteered at a fundraiser event for the shelter. The benefit had a band, food and drinks, and a silent auction. The theme was a swamp theme and PAWS' Deaux Deaux along with Tommy and Joe from the History Channel's television show *Swamp People* were there to show their support.

On October 21st, SNA volunteered with the little ghosts and goblins at *Boo at the Zoo!* This annual Audubon Zoo extravaganza is a safe, fun-filled Halloween event for children featuring trick-or-treat houses, a ghost train, scary and non-scary haunted houses, games, and entertainment. *Boo at the Zoo* is a fundraiser for Children's Hospital. As always, this event was spooktacular!

On October 26th, SNA helped to make the Great 100 Nurses Gala special for our fellow honored nurses. Each year, the Great 100 Nurses Foundation honors those they consider to be Louisiana's greatest Registered Nurses.



The Louisiana Children's Museum hosted a *Museum Mash* on October 29th. SNA volunteers helped the kids celebrate Halloween in a fun and safe way. They trick-or-treated throughout the museum's exhibits, played games, made paper plate crafts, filled in skeletons with pasta for bones, and much more. Later, volunteers joined guests and the museum staff in a rip-roaring, spine-shaking monster mash dance party in the museum's atrium.

Founded in 1989, the New Orleans Mission and its services have helped thousands of struggling people jumpstart their lives by temporarily providing clothing, food, shelter, and job placement. All of the New Orleans Mission's resources come from generous donations and grants. Every Monday in November, SNA volunteers gave two hours of their time to serve dinner to the homeless and fill their stomachs with a warm meal. Everyone was very grateful for our help. This is definitely an event that we will do again!

On November 4th, SNA volunteered at The Magnolia School Gala. Founded in 1935, The Magnolia School is a private, non-profit organization that provides support to adults with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. The school offers support and services in nineteen group homes, supported community living, a vocational/day habilitation program, and supported employment. The gala raises money to help with the expenses of

the school. SNA volunteered by helping to serve food, sell 50/50 tickets, and sell items at silent auction tables.

On November 5th, SNA helped in City Park with a *Super Saturday* event. Each month, work is geared toward the most urgent needs of the park which could include planting, mulching, painting, weeding ... but wait, it was the holiday season so the urgent need consisted of setting up Christmas trees and decorations for *Celebration in the Oaks*. We set up and lighted eighty trees around the park. At the end of the shift, all volunteers were given a free pass to enjoy the result of our hard work when *Celebration in the Oaks* opened for the season. It was hard work, but someone had to do it!

Bridge House is a nonprofit organization that serves as a last resort, long-term substance abuse treatment center. They take in those who are denied admission at other institutions -homeless and indigent drug and alcohol abusers. The only requirement is a sincere desire to change. Every year, Bridge House serves a Thanksgiving dinner to the homeless and less fortunate people of New Orleans. On Thursday, November 24th, SNA volunteers slipped away from their wonderful families to help these people find things to be thankful for on this day. This was a very rewarding and gratifying experience and those we helped were so grateful for our contribution.



On January 30th, we hosted another blood drive with Ochsner. Fifty people attempted to donate and we collected 26 units of blood.

On February 11th, SNA again volunteered at *Super Saturday* in City Park. Thirty SNA members spent the day using wheelbarrows, pitchforks, mulch, and

muscles to create a trail and mulch new trees.

On February 11th, SNA volunteers participated in a *Work/Play Day* at the Bayou Lacombe Center. This event, organized by The Friends of Louisiana Wildlife Refuges, consists of a half day of grounds and garden work followed by lunch and a canoe outing on Bayou Lacombe for those interested. After working in the historical gardens and lunch, we opted out of the canoe tour -it was freezing!

On February 23rd through 25th, SNA members volunteered at the Emergency Nurses Association Leadership Conference at the New Orleans Convention Center. This was a great way for us, as nursing students, to give back to the nurses in our community and across the country. We worked check-in stations and gave directions around the convention. Volunteers were offered access to the general sessions and exhibit halls! What a great learning opportunity.

On March 4th, SNA volunteered at a water station on the course of the Rock 'n' Roll New Orleans Marathon. The 26.2-mile race started at Poydras and Camp streets, ran through the city and along Lake Pontchartrain, and finished at City Park behind the New Orleans Museum of Art. More than 22,000 runners competed in the marathon.

On March 11th, SNA volunteered with Save Our Cemeteries on an iron restoration project. Save Our Cemeteries works to preserve historical cemeteries in the New Orleans area. SNA volunteers spent the day painting iron works throughout the St. Louis cemeteries.

Each month, SNA officers choose a charity or organization to donate items to. In August and September, we chose Bags Not Rags. Bags Not Rags' mission is to ensure that no child in foster care ever use a trash bag as luggage again. We collected 329 luggage, tote, and reusable grocery bags! This was the most collected by a SNA in the state and we were awarded a certificate at the Louisiana Association of Student Nurses' (LASN) State Convention.



In August and September, we collected first aid kits to support LASN's Disaster Preparedness Plan to help Louisiana citizens be prepared in case of another disaster like Hurricane Katrina. We collected 354 first aid kits. Again, this was the most collected by a SNA in the state and we were awarded a certificate at the LASN State Convention.

In October, we donated items to Ronald McDonald House. Items included chunky style soup, bottled water, diapers, paper products, cereal, and individually wrapped snacks. These items help the families who stay at Ronald McDonald House while their child receives treatment at local hospitals.

In November, we began collecting items to send to troops in Afghanistan. A fellow student's father is deployed there and he asked for SNA's help. Because many people do not receive care packages from home, we decided to send some. We collected items such as playing cards, toiletries, sunflower seeds, crackers, razors, and scarves. Stay tuned for a report on the number of amazing packages we were able to send.

In September, SNA officers attended the LASN State Convention in Alexandria. We were able to bring twenty-three members thanks to the generosity of Dean Porche and the School of Nursing Alumni Association. At convention, three of our students were elected to the LASN Executive Board: Leonard Jones (Vice President), Kira Riches (Secretary), and Meagan Hingle (Historian). Our SNA won many awards at convention including: largest number of community service projects, most bags donated to Bags Not Rags, most first aid kits donated, most school spirit at the opening night party, best dancer at the opening night party (Leonard Jones), and 3rd place for best representation of SNA activities in our scrapbook.

Congratulations to the LSU Health New Orleans SNA for making these awesome events possible!

Visit our website for a list of upcoming events:
<http://nursing.lsuhsu.edu/StudentInformation/Activities/StudentNursesAssociation.html>

Nurse Managed Clinic Opens in New Orleans East



LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing, in collaboration with the LSU Healthcare Network, has opened a nurse-managed clinic. The clinic will train nurse practitioners, other undergraduate and graduate nursing students, and interprofessional students representing medicine, allied health, nutritional sciences, social work, pharmacy, and public health. The nurse-managed clinic is located at Village de Jardin (VDJ) Independent Living Center in New Orleans East. Owned by the Louisiana Housing Finance Agency, Village de Jardin is a planned living environment for 224 apartments with amenities for older (55 or older) low income residents. The VDJ nurse-managed clinic opened on January 26th, 2012. It is in the heart of the VDJ community, providing ease of access to all residents. Located on the first level of two adjacent structures, the clinic occupies two wings of space; one housing the clinic with four examination rooms, the other will be used for student education and planned activities. The clinic's staff consists of School of Nursing faculty member Shelley Jeanfreau, DNS, FNP-BC, School of Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner Program alumnus Constance Bonnet, MN (*pictured below*), and medical assistant Trina Roberts. A grand opening will take place in the near future.

This project is supported by funds from the Division of Nursing (DN), Bureau of Health Professions (BHPPr), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) under grant number D11HP22193, Nurse Education Practice, Quality and Retention, for \$414,099.00. The information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any official endorsement be inferred by, the DN, BHPPr, HRSA, DHHS, or the US Government.



Sigma Theta Tau Induction and Epsilon Nu Chapter's 30th Anniversary

The Epsilon Nu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International would like to congratulate the 2012 inductees listed below. The induction ceremony and a celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Epsilon Nu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International will take place on Saturday, April 28th from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at Chateau Country Club in Kenner, Louisiana.

Alaina Adams	Brittany Garey	Micah Metrailer
Ashley Adams	Kathryn Garner	Lynsie Mumphrey
Jessica Adams	Jennifer Gilly	Anitha Mwemezi
Rachel Adams	Shekinah Gleason	Casey Myers
Thomas Allison, III	Jennifer Gravolet	Carli Newell
William Anderson	Nathan Green	Ainsley Nolan
Loren Angerdina	Gerard Guidry	Mia Oubre
Katasha August	Kim Guidry	Melissa Pitts
Aimee Babin	Grant Gunstream	Debbra Pogue
Brandie Baque	Kristen Gurtner	Kaitlin Pruett
Patti Barovechio	Celina Hargenrader	Mark Ranatza
Tara Blake	Rebecca Hentze	Sarah Raymond
Bettina Blasini	Shayna Hogan	Craig Redgrave
Trisha Bordelon	Andrea Huerta	Kristen Rogers
Lanesha Bracy	Nikki Hunter	Kristen Rumney
Hannah Buchwald	Mary Jackson	Eva Runnels
Robin Bundick	Erin Jiminez	Sarah Scheidler
Jennifer Chambers	Leonard Jones	Mia Schexnayder-Davis
Megan Cockfield	Rikki Judice	Angel Schexneider
Joseph Colvin	Katie Landry	Seth Schouest
Megan Cook	Amanda Lapeze	Jennifer Sciacca
Karen Cretini	Shawndolyn Lebine	Shaina Stampley
Sara Darensbourg	Natasha Lee	Rebecca Steen
Audra Degan	Alison Leonard	Simone Stewart
Erin DiGiglia	Amanda Levesque	Emily Thorn
Kristie DiVincenti	Angelle Lew	Tammy Tommaseo
Judity Dodd	Michelle Lindsey	Hai Vu
Abby Donnelly	Neva Lipscomb	Heather Walker
Shelli Ergen	Jessica Lirette	Nancy Washington
Alaina Fangue	Shari Malaki-Tran	Alexandra Waters
Mary Finnigan	Kadi Malek	Micah Welborn
Jude Foret	Summer Marshall	Megan Whitmer
Jenna Gainey	Kristen Massicot	Leatrice Williams
Irielle Gant	Catherine Mayer	

Cornerstone of Cultural Competency During the Disaster Cycle Program to Begin Training

The LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing received a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant in 2011 to support the underserved and provide cultural competence training to registered nurses and nursing students. The Cornerstone of Cultural Competency During the Disaster Cycle (C³DC) Program will begin offering 12 continuing nursing education modules starting April 30th.

These modules provide strategies for nurses to facilitate and work effectively as members of a team to manage both the physical and psychological impacts of disasters on vulnerable populations during the four phases of the disaster cycle. Participants have the opportunity to earn a total of 12.0 contact hours of continuing nursing education upon completion of all 12 modules. Each module is approximately 1.0 contact hour.

The program will be delivered online and will use materials to disseminate best practices on emergency preparedness and disaster management. The program will also use provider-directed live online forums utilizing case studies, discussion, application, and reflective journaling through the integration of education and technology in an inventive 3-D virtual format, focusing on the unique needs of individuals that experience a disaster.

The C³DC Program will also target graduate and undergraduate nursing students and faculty by providing a three credit graduate course and two credit undergraduate course beginning May 29th at the School of Nursing. A train-the-trainer program will be available for the community of interest in June 2012.

**For more information, please contact:
Ms. Kim Cheramie, Director of Continuing Education
nsgconted@lsuhsc.edu**



This project is supported by funds from the Division of Nursing (DN), Bureau of Health Professions (BHP), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) under grant number D11HP22192, Nurse Education Practice, Quality and Retention, for \$732,669. The information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any official endorsement be inferred by, the DN, BHP, HRSA, DHHS, or the US Government.

Dean Porche Leads State Nursing Licensing Board



Demetrius Porche, DNS, PhD, APRN, FNP, CS, FAANP, FAAN, Dean of the School of Nursing has been elected President of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing. Dr. Porche will serve a one year term as the board's president.

The mission of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing is to safeguard the life and health of the citizens of Louisiana by assuring persons practicing as Registered Nurses and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses are competent and safe.

The board establishes curriculum requirements and standards for individuals seeking to be licensed, approves nursing education programs whose graduates meet the licensing requirements of the board, establishes standards of nursing practice, examines, approves, renews, and reinstates licenses of duly qualified applicants and establishes examination procedures for such purposes.

Did You Know . . .

LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing has been approved by the LSU Board of Supervisors and the Louisiana State Board of Regents to offer a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree. The School of Nursing plans to enroll students in this program beginning in fall 2012. Enrollment of nurse anesthesia into the post-master's program is pending approval by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs. An on-site accreditation visit is tentatively scheduled for fall 2013 for initial accreditation of the DNP program by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.



*Dr. Gloria Giarratano,
2012 Nurse Researcher
of the Year*

LSNA Nightingale Award Nominees and Winners

Congratulations to the following nominees and award winners of the 2012 LSNA Nightingale Awards!

- Dr. Gloria Giarratano - Awarded Nurse Researcher of the Year
- Joyce Travelbee - LSNA Hall of Fame Inductee (posthumous)
- Jacqueline Favret - Nominee for Nurse Educator of the Year
- Dr. Scharalda Jeanfreau - Nominee for Advanced Practice Nurse of the Year



*Joyce Travelbee, 2012
Hall of Fame Inductee*



Jackie Favret Announces Retirement

Jacqueline O. Favret, RN, MPH, BSN, Assistant Professor of Clinical Nursing, has announced her upcoming retirement. Mrs. Favret administratively serves as the Program Director for Articulation Programs (RN to BSN and RN to MN/MSN) at the School of Nursing. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the University of Southwestern Louisiana in 1968 and her Master of Public Health degree from Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine in 1978. She was first licensed as a Registered Nurse (RN) in 1968 and was certified as a National Certification Investigator by the National Clearinghouse on Licensure, Enforcement & Regulation.

Mrs. Favret's academic teaching experience involves undergraduate nursing education both in private and public institutions. In this academic role, she has served in the faculty role as faculty member, course coordinator, and program director. In addition, Mrs. Favret is an active faculty member in the RN to MN/MSN graduate nursing transition courses. She has expanded her nursing education experience to include the development, planning, and implementation of continuing nursing education courses. She has taught courses to include but not limited to Nursing Leadership and Management, RN to MN/MSN Transition, Community/Mental Health, Foundations of Nursing Practice, Introduction to Professional Nursing, Community Health Nursing II, Health Assessment, and Perspectives in Professional Nursing. As a nurse educator for over 30 years, Mrs. Favret has served as instructor, advisor and role model for several thousand of Louisiana's nursing students.

Mrs. Favret's academic service expands from the nursing school to university level committee representation and membership. Her university academic service includes membership on LSU Health New Orleans Library Director Search Committee and Chancellor Search Committee, Library Advisor, and ADA School-Wide Committee. Her nursing school academic service includes membership on Faculty Organization, Curriculum Committee, Admission, Progression and Graduation Committee, and Administrative Council. Mrs. Favret's professional and lay community service has involved board membership on the Visiting Nurses Association, House of the Holy Family School, and Louisiana State Board of Nursing. She has served as President, Bylaws Committee member and BSN Counselor of the Epsilon Nu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International.

During her academic and practice career, Mrs. Favret has received numerous honors, scholarships, and special recognitions for her outstanding academic teaching and community service. Her awards include such honors as an American Red Cross Certificate of Appreciation, Honored Alumnus of the University of Southwestern Louisiana, Great 100 Nurses by the New Orleans District Nurses Association, and the Dr. H. P. Hewitt Award from the University of Southwestern Louisiana. Mrs. Favret was a gubernatorial appointed member of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing to regulate nursing practice.

The School of Nursing will be honoring Mrs. Favret at a retirement party on Thursday, April 26th from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm in the Dean's reception area on the 4th floor. Please come help us celebrate her achievements and wish her well in her future endeavors!

Students Represent the School of Nursing at AACN's 2012 Student Policy Summit

Family Nurse Practitioner students Simone Stewart and Nikki Hunter will be representing the School of Nursing at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) 2012 Student Policy Summit in Washington, DC. The AACN Student Policy Summit is a national conference where healthcare and politics meet.

The event serves as a forum where awareness of present policy, as well as the need for change is heightened. Politicians, deans of nursing programs, administrators, advanced practice registered nurses, registered nurses, and students ranging from those seeking a doctorate degree to a baccalaureate degree are given the opportunity to network amongst each other, interact with politicians from their respective

areas, and present a unified voice for healthcare reform that is vital in this country.

This year's issues that are being "brought to the Hill" are:

- Preserving and protecting funding for the Nursing Workforce Development programs
- Supporting an increased investment in the National Institute of Health (NIH) and National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)
- Supporting \$20 million for Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Nurse-Managed Health Clinics

Did You Know . . .

New Orleans CityBusiness has named Dr. Yvonne Sterling as a member of the Class of 2012 Health Care Heroes! In its 6th year, Health Care Heroes recognizes 50 top professionals in the region's health care industry based on professional and community achievement. Honorees will be recognized at a May 10th luncheon at the Ritz-Carlton and a special insert profiling all honorees will run in the May 18th edition of CityBusiness.



SON Named Stellar School by National Student Nurses' Association

The National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) has announced that LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing is a recipient of NSNA Stellar School Chapter recognition. This program recognizes NSNA school chapters for their ongoing involvement in NSNA and their commitment to shared governance and professional development. The School of Nursing will hold this award for 5 years.

The NSNA Stellar School Chapter certificate will be presented to Dean Porche, Marirose Bernard (Faculty Advisor), and Kira Riches (School Chapter President) in April at the NSNA 60th Anniversary Convention and Alumni Reunion in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Only 5 schools across the country win this award yearly, so we are very honored! Stellar School Chapter pins may be purchased for \$5. Please contact Kira Riches by email for details (Krich5@lsuhsc.edu).

Nurse Anesthesia in Guatemala



Dr. Laura Bonanno, CRNA (left center) and Andy Pitt, CRNA (right center) during an induction.



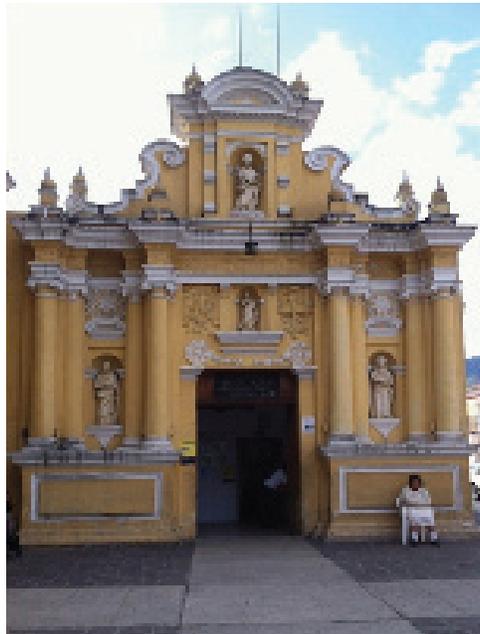
Bridgett Payne, SRNA (right) is assisted by Andy Pitt, CRNA (left) during an intubation.



Tara Blake, SRNA (right) performing a spinal block for a TURP procedure.

Tara Blake and Bridgette Payne, two LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing senior Nurse Anesthesia students, participated in the ninth annual Knoxville Medical Mission Trip to Hermano Pedro Hospital in Antigua, Guatemala. Tara and Bridgette were accompanied by Dr. Laura Bonanno, CRNA, Nurse Anesthesia Program Director and Andrew Pitt, CRNA, Nurse Anesthesia faculty member. The surgical team included doctors, nurses, nurse anesthetists, and other surgical professionals from Kentucky, Tennessee, Connecticut, and Louisiana.

Hermano Pedro Hospital is a small Catholic hospital, church, and orphanage in Antigua, Guatemala. The hospital has four operating rooms and functions primarily through the efforts of mission groups from the United States.



Hermano Pedro Hospital in Antigua, Guatemala

Amazingly, the hospital is staffed each week throughout the year with a different mission group volunteering to perform necessary surgeries for the people in the area. The patients not only include people native to Antigua, but also patients from all over Guatemala. Many patients must travel several hours to receive the medical or surgical treatment they are in such great need of.

During this particular mission, the team worked at the hospital for five days evaluating patients and performing gynecology, urology, and general surgical procedures.

Although initially many of the surgical team members did not know each other, they were able to work together very easily with a common goal of helping the people of Guatemala. After a week of working together and participating in such an amazing experience, strong bonds of friendship and respect were formed.

The mission trip was humbling and the surgical team members will be forever grateful for this incredible experience.

Tara Blake BSN, SRNA
Bridgette Payne, BSN, SRNA
Laura S. Bonanno, DNP, CRNA
Andrew Pitt, MS, CRNA

School of Nursing Hosts the 26th Annual SNRS Conference

The 26th annual conference of the Southern Nurses Research Society (SNRS) was held February 22nd - 25th at the Hilton Riverside Hotel in New Orleans. The event was hosted by the LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing. The mission of the SNRS is to: advance nursing research, promote dissemination and utilization of research findings, facilitate the career development of nurses and nursing students as researchers, enhance communication among members, and promote the image of nursing as a scientific discipline. SNRS members are from 14 states, including the Caribbean and Latin America. Dr. Demetrius Porche, Dean of the School of Nursing, currently serves in the office of Treasurer for the society. Dr. Yvonne Sterling, member of the society's Program Committee, was the local conference chairperson.

Over 750 nurse researchers, doctoral students, academicians, administrators, and clinicians attended the conference. More than 500 podium, poster, and poster discussion sessions were presented over the four day conference. The conference began with a stimulating opening keynote presentation by Dr. Marion Broome, Dean at the Indiana University School of Nursing. She is best known for her research testing interventions to address pain in children and pediatric research ethics. Presenters of their research from LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing faculty and alumni were Dr. Gloria Giarratano, Dr. Karen Rice,

and Todd Tartavouille. Attendees also had the opportunity to dialogue with national and international researchers, other doctoral students, and representatives from various funding agencies, including the National Institute of Nursing Research.

The LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing faculty, students, and alumni played a significant role in the execution of the conference. They served as session moderators, monitors, assisted SNRS staff, and provided conference attendees with information about the local culture and attractions. Our role as ambassadors for the city was done with competency, ease, and finesse! The School of Nursing hosted a reception on the evening of February 22nd at the Hilton that was inundated with Mardi Gras beads and other local treasures. This event was co-sponsored by the Epsilon Nu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society.

The conference was a grand success, thanks to the School of Nursing family and community supporters. There was no doubt that attendees left the conference with transformative knowledge about current research from nurse scientists and were most impressed with the hospitality of the New Orleans community. Upon their return to their various locations, the SNRS visitors will "know what it means to miss New Orleans!"

Welcome to Our New Faculty Members



Glenda Delaune, RN, MN



Raymond Deolin, CRNA, MSN



Gerard Guidry, RN, BSN



Nedra Keenan, RN, MSN



Martha Miller, APRN-BC, MN



Angela Scanio, RN, MSN

Congratulations to Our Graduates

December 2011

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Mary Catherine Ayo
Linda Walley Abner
Julia Elizebeth Batchelder
Lauren Elizabeth Baudry
Courtney Belsome Bahr
Kelly Jayne Bennett
Trang Bui Bordes
Elyse Diane Bower
Bryan Thomas Buechler
Lauryn Theresa Burns
Analiese Michelle Cardaronella
Courtney Marie Carpenter
Angela Marie Cascino
Natasha Franklin Cleveland
Cullen Barry Coffman
Ariane Maria Collins
Brett Thomas Connolly
Camille Marie Cousin
Jennifer Cruz
Amy Elizabeth Dares
Jaime Caitlin Davis
Cody Marcel DeMagnus
Nicholas Ramon Diaz
Erin Elizabeth Donnelly
Collyn Marie Driscoll
Anjell Monique Duplantier
Erika Lynn Edwards
Heidi Marie Eiserloh
Emilie Khristine Eller
Jordan Elizabeth Ellis
Lauren Elizabeth Eustis
Jeffrey Michael Farnet
James Curtis Foshee
Allyson Renee Gardiner
Margaret Cecile Garon
Kathryn Anastasia Gerchow
Kristen Nicole Gilberti
Heather Michelle Gouner
Elena Neklutin Hagstette

Amanda Marie Harrell
Chester Leandro Hernandez
Kaycie Lynn Hernandez
Meghan Lee Hodson
Wendy Renée Hounsel
Hillary Elizabeth Hymel
Vivian Alejandra Isaula
Andrea Houston Jeane
Andrea Favolora Jeanfreau
Ting Jiang
Rebecca Diane Johnson
Erin Rachel Kalbacher
KaChettral Cha-Vonntae Keasley
Natalie Renee Kot
Katherine Greer Krail
Ingrid Orellana Krainski
Katy Lynn Kuhn
Mallory Marie Kuss
Amanda Cerise Lagarde
Lacie Marie Laiche
Alexander Kiet-Nhan Le
Danielle Colette Lemon
Brent Joseph Leonard
Rebecca Florence Levy
Theresa Alexis Loomis
Michelle Elizabeth Lousteau
Elizabeth Frances Marlowe
Mirtza Liseth Martinez
Hannah Jeanine Matte
Jennifer Anne Mattern
Amber Suzette McCraney
Eileen Hoyle McMillan
Jessica Lynn Meister
Brittani Amanda Mejia
Chelsea Hardaway Miller
Rachel Leigh Mills
Robert Wayne Mixon, Jr.
Katherine Anne Montalbano
Katheryn Rita Montamat

Yakisha Gatlin Montes
Lance Ryan Morello
Mathew Charles Naquin
Tabitha Callahan Overby
Sarah Conarty Owens
Brittany Ann Pastor
Kimberly Catherine Paternostro
Melissa Grant Richmond
Brady Trist Rivet
Krista Marie Rozycki
Mary Elise Saitta
Rachel Mary Sander
Richon Marie Saunders
Allison Michelle Scurria
Heidi Ann Serigne
Whitney Marie Serio
Stephanie Elizabeth Sevier
Erin Catherine Smith
Frances Kavanaugh Smith
Kelly Matherne Spalt
Michelle Aucoin Stieffel
Jennifer Lynn Stovall
Amber Nichole Swisshelm
Ashley Lauren Tessitore
Carrie Ann Thomson
Linda Jean Veals
Robert Clarence Villio, III
Tina Thanh Vo
Leslie Clair Wade
Victoria Ann Wagley
Anthony Olson Watkins
Erin Elizabeth Allesandra Watson
Danielle Jessica Weaver
Renata Monique Weber
Ronisha Jhonique White
Danielle Nicole Whitney
Emily Danielle Williams
Jared Michael Yore
Hector Jordan Zayas

Master of Nursing

Patti Gilthorpe Barovecchio
Aimee Breland Barrois
Denise Lebeau Dandridge

Cynthia Whellis Ingram
Debbra Thompson Pogue
Heather Alexis Walker

Leatrice Shavonne Williams
Amber Noele Varnado

Doctor of Nursing Science

Todd Michael Keller

...and Our Award Winners

Wendy Renée Hounsel
Valedictorian

Dolores H. Scheerle Memorial Entrepreneurial Award, BSN

Chelsea Hardaway Miller
Salutatorian

Aimee Breland Barrois
National Association of Neonatal Nurses
Certificate of Acknowledgement

Lauren Elizabeth Eustis
Dean's Award

Cynthia Whellis Ingram
Dolores H. Scheerle Memorial Entrepreneurial Award, MN

Andrea Houston Jeane
Nursing Caring Award, BSN

Rebecca Florence Levy
Sigma Theta Tau Distinguished Graduate Award
Student Nurses' Association Outstanding Graduate Award

Jessica Lynn Meister
Mary Lou Steedley Memorial Community
Health Nursing Award

Lance Ryan Morello
Faculty Recognition Award

Debbra Thompson Pogue
Joyce Travelbee Award

Whitney Marie Serio
Jo Ellen Smith Memorial Award

Jennifer Lynn Stovall
Dolores H. Scheerle Memorial Entrepreneurial Award, BSN

Amber Noele Varnado
Nursing Caring Award, MN

Robert Clarence Villio, III
Alumni Association Recognition of Class Spirit Award

Victoria Ann Wagley
Student Government Association Outstanding
Graduate Award

Nancy Buccola, MSN, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, CNE
Nursing Caring Award, Faculty



The LSU Health New Orleans
School of Nursing Alumni Association
is selling short sleeve (\$18)
and long sleeve (\$25) t-shirts.

If you are interested in
purchasing one, please contact
Nikki Hunter at nhunte@lsuhsc.edu.

Faculty Scholarship, Service & Accomplishments

Judith Gentry has been selected by the Oncology Nursing Society to serve as an Oncology Nursing Society Educator Portal Reviewer.

Judith Gentry has been elected Chair of the LSNA's Nominations Committee for 2011-2013.

Judith Gentry, Rose Schaubhut, Laura Bonanno, and Marjorie Geisz-Everson's "Preceptor Workshops Interdisciplinary Project for Graduate and Undergraduate Preceptor Education" will be presented as a poster presentation at the 2012 Drexel University Nursing Education Institute in Savanna, Georgia in June.

Cathy Lopez has successfully completed her Doctor of Health Education degree. Her dissertation was titled "The Impact of an Educational Intervention on Nursing Faculty Perceptions of Student Incivility in the Classroom, Clinical, and Simulation Lab Setting."

Stephanie Pierce has successfully completed her PhD in education specializing in leadership for higher education. Her dissertation was titled "A Study of the Imposter Phenomenon Among Male Nurse Educators."

Jane Sumner has been elected to serve for one year on the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors for the National League for Nursing.

Jane Sumner has been appointed to the Sigma Theta Tau International Outreach Committee.

Barcelona-deMendoza, V. (2011, December). Prenatal care, social support and mental health in pregnant Latina women in a disaster recovery environment. Poster presentation at the 17th Annual Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Rosedale, M., Perrin, M., **Buccola, N.**, Strauss, S., & Malaspina, D. (2012). An evidence-based response to "Genes and schizophrenia: A pseudoscientific disenfranchisement of the individual." *Journal of Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing*, 19, 83-84. doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2850-2011.01834.x

Buccola, N. (2011, October). The changing landscape of schizophrenia genetics: Implications for nursing. Presented at the American Psychiatric Nurses' Association Annual Conference, Anaheim, California.

Buccola, N. as part of the Schizophrenia Psychiatric Genome-Wide Study (GWAS) Consortium. (2011, September). Genome-wide association study identifies five new schizophrenia loci. *Nature Genetics*, 43(10), 969-976.

Garbee, D. & Douglas, D. (2011, October). Historical research: Joyce Travelbee. Poster presented at the American Psychiatric Nurses' Association Annual Conference, Anaheim, California.

Giarratano, G. (2011, October). Mental health status of childbearing women in New Orleans six years after the Hurricane Katrina disaster. Poster presentation at the National Institute of Nursing Research's 25th Anniversary Concluding Scientific Symposium, Washington, D.C.

Giarratano, G. & Barcelona-deMendoza, V. (2011, November). Perinatal mental health in a post-Katrina New Orleans. Presented at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

Giarratano, G., Barcelona-deMendoza, V., Harville, E., & Savage, J. (2012, February). Mental health status of childbearing women in New Orleans six years after the Hurricane Katrina disaster. Poster presentation at the 26th Annual Southern Nursing Research Society (SNRS) Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Giarratano, G. & Harville, E. (2011, September). After disaster: Vulnerability and resilience of childbearing women. Presented at Postpartum Support International's 25th Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington.

Savage, J. & **Giarratano, G.** (2011, December). Depression, PTSD, stress, and anxiety in pregnant women living in a disaster recovery environment. Presented at the 17th Annual Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Sumner, J. (2011, November). Advanced nursing practice in the United States of America: Managing, negotiating, and monitoring the health care system. In C. Cox, M. Hill, & V. Lack (Eds.), *Advanced Practice in Healthcare: Skills for Nurses and Allied Health Professionals*. UK: Routledge.

Tartavouille, T. (2011, September). Relationship among the physiologic, psychologic, and situational factors and health related quality of life in the adult pulmonary hypertension population: A pilot study. Poster presentation at the Pulmonary Hypertension Professional Network Symposium, Washington, D.C.

**To make a submission to this newsletter or
update your contact information, email:**

Sherry Chalona
sspera@lsuhsc.edu