



PhD Nursing Newsletter

College of Nursing

July 2014

From the Program Chair:

Summertime, and the livin' is easy...So they say...But I know that summer is pretty busy for many of you! Summer classes and research projects are rolling along, here at the semester mid-point, and it is time to turn our attention toward fall course offerings.

Please review this newsletter carefully for upcoming events, as well as news about accomplishments of the doctoral faculty, PhD alumni, and currently enrolled students. If we did not list your accomplishments, we didn't know about them! Please remember to send news of your presentations, honors, and publications so that we can congratulate you.

--Sandra Thomas, Chair, PhD Program

Welcome to the Class of 2014 –

At May Orientation, we welcomed 7 PhD students: Julie Hubbard from White Pine, Sarah Covington from Indiana, Jean Sconza from Louisiana, Serena Fritz from Georgia, Kendra Todt and Faye Hughes from upper east Tennessee, and Maureen Baksh-Griffin from Chattanooga. Shade Adigun from Nashville was unable to attend orientation because her obstetrician placed her on bed rest until her due date for delivery. Shade hopes to begin coursework in the fall.



Good news—

Associate Dean Dr. Mary Gunther is pleased to announce that the college received \$155,000 for the Nurse Faculty Loan Program, enabling us to fund all of our students who applied this year.

Upcoming Events/Important Dates--

July 22 – 1-5 PM Reviewer Training Workshop by Dr. Thomas – This workshop is designed for all current PhD students, to prepare you for serving as a reviewer of journal articles. Learning to provide a fair, balanced, critique of the work of one's peers is valuable not only for your future career, but also for critiquing your fellow students' work while in our doctoral program. This skill is also useful for self-critiquing! Once you complete the reviewer training workshop, you will have the opportunity to participate in the Mentored Reviewer Program of *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*, a

program in which you are paired with an experienced reviewer to conduct a review of a manuscript. Your mentor will examine your draft review and provide feedback, allowing you to make revisions as necessary before uploading the final version of the review. (Participating in the Mentored Reviewer Program of IMHN is *optional*.)

August 8 – Summer classes end

August 20 –Fall classes begin

August 25 –Joint DNP- PhD Colloquium – 1-4 PM in room 234. At this colloquium, students in both doctoral programs will make presentations (this includes 4 DNP students and the 9 students who are taking N610 this summer). Each presentation will be about 10 minutes, allowing time for questions and feedback to the presenters. **We will order box lunches to be delivered about 12 noon, immediately preceding the colloquium.**

Fall Semester PhD Class Schedule

(first on-site is August 25-27, second is November 10-12)

N601 meets Mondays 8-12 with Dr. Hall (for first-year students)

N612 also meets Mondays 8-12 with Drs. Myers and Davis (for second-year students)

Colloquium will be Monday afternoons 1-4 during both on-site sessions

Epidemiology with Dr. Umberger will be 4:30 to 6:30

N605 meets Tuesdays 8-12 with Dr. Wyatt (for first-year students)

N613 meets Tuesday afternoons with Dr. Mixer (for second-year students)

N606 (for students in their last semester) meets Wednesdays with Dr. Phillips (time TBA)

Note: Plans are incomplete for a research workshop in November. Once plans are complete, there may be slight adjustments in the November schedule.

Publishing Opportunities:

The quarterly magazine of the Tennessee Nurses Association, *Tennessee Nurse*, is looking for writers of articles on leadership/policy, education, and practice issues. This is an excellent opportunity for your work to reach thousands of nurse colleagues. Kathy Denton, managing editor of *Tennessee Nurse*, invites articles of 750-1,000 words, typed in Microsoft Word. Please email Kathy if you have an article idea, and she will be glad to give you helpful guidance (kdenton@tnaonline.org).

Journal of Advanced Nursing has issued a call for literature review papers. This is a good venue to consider for manuscripts emanating from the N610 assignment to conduct a state of the science review in your focus area. The journal accepts any type of high quality systematic literature review, with a 5,000 word limit. *JAN* is the most frequently cited nursing journal in the world, and it offers quick online publication. Author guidelines may be found at <http://bit.ly/14Z0dZW>.

Call for Book Reviews:

The book review editor for *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*, PhD alumna Kelly Carlson, invites students to contribute book reviews. This is another good opportunity to gain experience in publishing. Please contact Dr. Carlson at kcarlso3@gmail.com.

Kudos, Applause, and Hugs All Around to Faculty, Students, and Alumni for the Following Accomplishments:

Student Accomplishments:

Mary Bess Griffith, Jenny Webb, and Michelle Williams have passed their comps, enabling them to be admitted to candidacy and proceed to dissertation proposal defense.

Deb Jones and April Bice successfully defended their dissertation proposals.

Stasia Ruskie was honored for extraordinary professional promise at the Chancellor's Honors Banquet in the spring. She is pictured here with Dr. Susan Speraw and MSN student Lauren Oppizzi. Stasia is doing a summer preceptorship with the New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, working with tribal governments and disaster preparedness.



Cecily Strang delivered remarks on behalf of PhD graduates at May Commencement. Cecily conducted her dissertation in Kenya, which she has served as a missionary and community health worker for 26 years. She will return to Kenya for 3 years to work full-time in the area of malaria care among the Maasai people while continuing to teach online for King University.

Lisa Kirkland, who teaches at Tennessee Wesleyan College, wrote a successful grant that will enhance leadership skills among students at her school (the National Student Nurses Association's Marilyn Bagwell Leadership Development Grant). This grant is annually awarded by NSNA to only one nursing program in the country. Publicity about the award appeared in the June-August issue of *Tennessee Nurse*.

Susan Blaine was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi honor society at its spring induction ceremony.

PhD student inductees at the April Gamma Chi STTI induction ceremony were Erin Arcipowski, Shirleen Chase, Beth Shieh, and Susan Blaine.

Jenny Webb and Melanie Morris, along with faculty members Sandra Thomas and Terri Combs-Orme from Social Work, received the first place research poster award at Gamma Chi STTI

Research Day. Melanie Morris also exhibited the poster at the AWHONN meeting in Nashville and at Vanderbilt's research day.



Jennifer Mabry has been named our first Jonas Scholar. Jennifer will receive funding for 2014-2016 through this mechanism as well as participating in national networking opportunities with other Jonas Scholars. Her mentor is Dr. Carole Myers.

Faculty Accomplishments:

Dr. Tami Wyatt will be inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing in the fall, one of 168 nurse leaders from the USA and other countries.

Congratulations are also in order for Dr. Sadie Hutson, who received the Daisy Faculty Award at Commencement on May 10.

Alumni Accomplishments:

Alumna Pratsani Srikan (best known by her nickname Niam) reports a new publication with Dr. Phillips. Dr. Srikan returned to her native Thailand to teach after receiving her PhD degree. The citation for her new publication is:

Pratsani Srikan, RN, PhD and Kenneth D. Phillips, RN, PhD: Psychometric Properties of the Dietary Salt Reduction Self-Care Behavior Scale. *Nursing Science Quarterly*, 2014, Vol 27(3) 234-241. DOI: 10.1177/0894318414534485.

New alumna Dr. Christy Hall, who just received her degree at May commencement, has accepted a tenure-track faculty position at East Tennessee State University.

Dr. Kelly Carlson is moving to Boston in August to accept a faculty position at Worcester College.

PhD alumna Laurel Cassidy recently visited the college and reported on her experiences over the years with Doctors Without Borders. She and her husband are leaving soon for new humanitarian service in Tanzania.



Alumnus Steve Busby, who teaches at Vanderbilt, will be conducting a grounded theory workshop for the N607 class on July 21. Steve has been asked to contribute to the 4th edition of Dr. Juliet Corbin's *Basics of Qualitative Research*.

Several UTK alumnae will be teaching for UTK in 2014-2015, including Pam Embler, Robin Harris, Tese Stephens, Shelia Swift, and Mary Nypaver. Lisa Davenport will continue in her role in Dr. Speraw's Appalachian research team.

A Note of Sympathy:

Our sincere condolences to Lisa Kirkland in the recent death of her father.

**Wishing you a successful completion of summer semester,
and a productive fall term!
Go Vols!**

