

From the Program Chair:

Fall classes have begun, and all of us have hit the ground running! We had a great colloquium on August 30 during the first on-site session, in which many of our faculty, including the dean, shared their exciting grant-funded programs of research. If you missed the colloquium, be sure to mark November 13 on your calendar for the next one. Colloquia provide a great way for faculty and students to interact outside of regular classes. Concepts, theories, research ideas, and other issues of common interest are explored, and refreshments are served. Please review this newsletter carefully for other upcoming events of the fall semester, as well as news about faculty, student, and alumni accomplishments. If we did not list your accomplishments, we didn't know about them! Please remember to send news of presentations and publications so that we can congratulate you.

--Sandra Thomas, Chair, PhD Program

Upcoming Events/Important Dates:

October 7—deadline to submit abstracts for the **Southern Nursing Research Society** conference to be held in San Antonio February 12-15. Student abstracts are highly encouraged, and the research does not have to be completed. Many students present their ongoing work at several SNRS conferences during their doctoral studies. The conference includes a special networking session for doctoral students, permitting you to meet other students from throughout the region. Please go to the SNRS web site for directions about abstract submission (www.snrs.org) and avail yourself of faculty feedback prior to submission.

November 11—The annual **Boynton Lecture**, which is delivered by a nationally prominent nursing scholar, will be held from 11:30 AM to 2:15 PM at the University Center Ballroom. The program itself is free, but anyone eating lunch must pay \$8.00. The program will be held at the University Center Ballroom. Online registration is available at <http://tinyurl.com/BoyntonLecture>.

Our speaker this year is Dr. Kristen Swanson, who developed the Theory of Caring. Dr. Swanson received her BSN from University of Rhode Island College of Nursing, her MSN from University of Pennsylvania, and her PhD in Nursing from University of Colorado. She is presently the dean at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

November 13—The second **colloquium** of the fall semester will be held from 8:30 to 12:30 in room 412 of Claxton Building (where we met in August). Students in N601 and N605 will be presenting.

December 12—**College of Nursing Recognition Ceremony** (formerly called Convocation) will be held in the University Center Auditorium at 1:00 PM. Master's and doctoral students will be hooded by their chairpersons, to the cheers of the audience of family and friends.

Looking ahead to spring semester:

In the spring semester, Dr. Hall will be teaching N603 and Dr. Mefford will be teaching N608.

Most of you will also have statistics and/or cognates, depending on the plan you worked out with your advisor for full-time or part-time study. The on-site class sessions will be Jan. 13-15 and April 7-9. Also remember to mark the dates for SNRS on your spring calendar.

Thinking ahead about a preceptorship:

N614 (preceptorship) is offered during the summer semester. Preceptorship is an excellent opportunity to work with a mentor at another institution and/or have an intensive immersion experience that enriches your program of study. Students in the past have chosen to do some pretty exciting things, such as going to foreign countries (e.g., Japan,

Botswana, England), attending an institute (e.g., ethics institute, health policy institute), working with a dean or research director, or having an intensive experience with a renowned theorist or researcher (e.g., learning grounded theory methodology). Please make an appointment with your advisor to talk about the possibilities. While a preceptorship is not mandatory, except for the students in Health Policy or Global Disaster Nursing, it remains a very attractive component of doctoral education and we encourage you to experience it--if at all possible.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:

Applications for the SNRS Research Grant of \$7500 are due **October 1**. Eligibility criteria include: (1) membership in SNRS, either student or regular; (2) not having more than \$30,000 funding during the past 2 years; and (3) not having served on a previous SNRS Research Grant as Principal Investigator. Details may be found on the SNRS web site (provided above).

New Appointments in the College:

When Jan Lee left to become a dean in Dubuque, Iowa, two of our faculty assumed new responsibilities:

- Mary Gunther was appointed interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.
- Allie Brown was named the coordinator for the Nursing Education Certificate program. Those of you pursuing this certificate will be working with her to plan your practicum.

Searches in Progress:

The college is conducting a national search for Dr. Lee's replacement, as well as a search for tenure-track faculty. If you know individuals who might be interested, contact the following search committee chairpersons:

- Lora Beebe is chairing the search for Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
- Ken Phillips is chairing the search for tenure-track faculty
- Tami Wyatt is chairing a search for a professor with expertise in health information technology and simulation

Good News about Epidemiology Course:

Nursing 579 has been approved as a substitute for Public Health's Introduction to Epidemiology, one of three courses required for the minor in epidemiology, which is an option for PhD students.

Opening of Application Period for the Class of 2014:

We are ready to consider applications for the next class of PhD students, which will begin their studies next June. If you are pleased with your program here at UTK, you can help us recruit excellent applicants for the next class. We are especially interested in recruiting additional BSN to PhD students. Those of you who are educators can help us identify those bright undergraduates with an aptitude for research and encourage them to pursue a doctoral degree-- before they are encumbered by full-time jobs, children, and the many responsibilities of mid-life which so many of you are experiencing while you are pursuing doctoral study. The deadline for completed applications is in October, with interviews to be conducted in November. Please refer potential applicants to Michelle Hammett (michelle@utk.edu) if they have questions about the application process.

KUDOS, APPLAUSE, AND HUGS ALL AROUND TO STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND ALUMNI FOR THE FOLLOWING ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Student Honors and Accomplishments

- Doctoral students were well represented at the Scholarship Banquet in August. **Brenna Adelman, April Bice, Anna Cartwright, Carla Dahm Neale, Lisa Kirkland, Shannon Richmond, Stasia Ruskie, Cecily Strang, and Jenny Webb** received scholarships from the College of Nursing.
- **Erin Arcipowski, Susan Blaine, and Beth Shieh** are funded by the Chancellor's Award program.
- **Linda Cabage** is funded by the J. Wallace and Katie Dean Graduate Fellowship program.
- **Carla Dahm** presented a poster at the 2013 Summer Institute on Evidence-Based Practice, "Quiet Time—Uninterrupted Rest for Patients," a project conducted on the Medical Nephrology unit at UT Medical Center. As you may have noticed, Carla also acquired a name change recently! She is now Carla Neale. Congratulations on your marriage!
- **Stephanie Lewis**, who has been living in Switzerland while conducting her dissertation, will defend on October 10 at 9 AM

in room 313. The title of her dissertation is “Exploring Neonatal Intensive Care Nurses’ Affective Responses to Providing End-of-Life Care.” Everyone is invited to attend her dissertation defense.

- **Shelia Swift** will defend her dissertation on November 4 at 1 PM in room 313 (you are cordially invited). The title of her dissertation is, “It’s a Little Scar”: A Phenomenological Study of Nurses’ Responses Following Direct Involvement in a Nursing Error.” Shelia is serving on the Dean’s Student Advisory Council this fall, and doing clinical teaching for the College of Nursing.
- Seven students who participated in the reviewer training session in July have already completed manuscript reviews for *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*: **Richard Meeks, Anna Cartwright, Clifton Kenon, Sharon Smith, Susan Blaine, Brenna Adelman, and Marcia Spurgeon.**
- **Marcia Spurgeon**, who is a GTA this fall, is serving on the Graduate Curriculum Committee.
- **Jake Terry** is serving on the Diversity Committee this year.
- **Cecily Strang, Glenda Feild, Christy Hall, and Suzanne Boswell** have embarked on their dissertation research.

Alumni News and Accomplishments

Recent graduate **Robin Harris** earned top research abstract honors at the American Association of Heart Failure Nurses’ annual meeting in Montreal. The abstract was based on her doctoral dissertation on an exercise intervention for heart failure patients. We are so proud of you, Robin!

August graduate **Renee Parker** coauthored a publication with Lora Beebe which was published in *Journal of Psychosocial Nursing and Mental Health Services*.

Several other alumnae, **Jessica Naber, Kathy Smith,** and **Kelly Carlson**, have coauthored recent faculty publications.

Alumnae **Pam Emblar, Lisa Davenport, and Robin Harris** have been hired to teach on a part-time basis at the college this fall.

Julie Worley has a forthcoming publication in *Western*

Journal of Nursing Research, based on her dissertation research with women who doctor shop to obtain prescription medications. Julie is now on the faculty of Rush University. She will present UTK as our “rising star” at the November convention of Sigma Theta Tau International.

Kelly Carlson is president of the Tennessee Chapter of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association.

Mona Shattell is now Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development at DePaul in Chicago. She previously taught at University of North Carolina, Greensboro, and at University of Alabama. Mona is being inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing next month.

Phyllis King has a publication in "Western Journal of Nursing Research." Phyllis is on the faculty at Palm Beach Atlantic University.

Faculty Honors and Accomplishments

Nan Gaylord has been recognized as the 2013 Health Care Hero by the *Greater Knoxville Business Journal* for her years of work at the Vine School Health Center, which she founded in 1995. The grant she recently received from the Health Resources and Services Administration has enabled the Vine Health Center to add educational evaluation and testing, services of a social worker, and telehealth services at 24 other sites in Knox County.

Marian Roman will soon receive the 2013 Award for Innovation from the American Psychiatric Nurses Association for her development of LaunchPoint, a comprehensive life recovery program for people who are homeless.

Tami Wyatt has been named an NIH mHealth Scholar, which is an extremely prestigious award. DocuCare, the educational electronic record that she developed, is now

the leading educational EHR on the market, with over 30,000 users in 46 states and 4 countries. She reports a recent publication in *Nursing Clinics of North America*, a paper “in press” at *Nursing Education Today*, coauthored with PhD alumna Jessica Naber, and another paper “in press” at *Pain Management Nursing*, coauthored with current PhD student April Bice and faculty member Mary Gunther.

Lisa Lindley has been funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research (a KO1 award) for a study entitled *An Examination of Hospice Use Among Children*. She has 6 2013 publications, including one that included PhD student Mary Lou Fornehed.

Reba Umberger has been conducting a pilot study on the feasibility of electronic data capture from electronic medical records for research purposes. She presented findings at the 2013 Gamma Chi Interprofessional

Healthcare Research Day and is planning to present at the Society of Critical Care Medicine in 2014. Along with several other faculty, she has a publication “in press” at *Nursing Clinics of North America*.

Joanne Hall reports upcoming international conference presentations in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and Coventry, England, as well as a national conference in Las Vegas.

Susan Speraw shared with us at the August colloquium her exciting interdisciplinary project focusing on an impoverished Appalachian community in Clay County, Kentucky. The project involves faculty from Architecture, Engineering, and Law, as well as nursing. Susan also received continued funding from HRSA for the Global Disaster Nursing program.

Lora Beebe and **Marian Roman** are federally funded for a recovery-based distance education program for graduate students in mental health nursing, nutrition, exercise physiology, and pharmacy, whose career paths will involve working with individuals with multiple chronic conditions. This grant has a **GTA position** which will include payment of your tuition for 3 semesters, a stipend, and health insurance. **If you are interested, please contact Dr. Roman** at mroman@utk.edu.

Lora Beebe and **Marian Roman** have a recent publication in *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*, coauthored with PhD alumna Kathy Smith (and others).

Sadie Hutson has received federal funding for a study of end-of-life in Appalachian residents with HIV/AIDS. Her collaborators include Joanne Hall, Ken Phillips, Lisa Lindley, and Susan Gaskins from Alabama. She has a

paper “in press” at *Journal of Appalachian Studies* as well as coauthored papers in *Issues in Mental Health Nursing* and *Nursing Clinics of North America*.

Linda Mefford has been working closely with nurses at East Tennessee Children’s Hospital on a multidisciplinary task force formed to address the challenges of neonatal abstinence syndrome.

Carole Myers has been heavily involved with the Tennessee Action Coalition and the Tennessee Nursing Institute for Leadership and Policy. Her projects are funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Assisi Foundation. She and Mary Gunther are developing an e-mentoring program for newly graduated nurses. She invites everyone to view the new web site for the Tennessee Action Coalition (<https://tac.tennessee.edu>).

Sandra Thomas, Ken Phillips, and Mary Gunther will travel to Ghent, Belgium, in October for the 8th European Congress on Violence in Clinical Psychiatry. They will present their research on convicted sex offenders. Thomas has recent publications in *Western Journal of Nursing Research* and *Perspectives in Psychiatric Care* and papers that are “in press” at *NASPA Journal about Women in Higher Education* and *Archives of Psychiatric Nursing* (the latter coauthored with Ken Phillips and Mary Gunther).

Bonnie Callen is studying nutrition in the elderly and continues her interesting work with the 36 centenarians who live in Knoxville.

REMEMBER TO PASS ALONG YOUR GOOD NEWS ITEMS
&
Have a wonderful semester!!

