



# NURSING NOTES

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Welcome to the fall 2008 issue of **Nursing Notes**, the E-Newsletter for alumni, friends and family of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke Department of Nursing. To learn more about the Nursing Program at UNC Pembroke, visit our Web site at [www.uncp.edu/nursing/](http://www.uncp.edu/nursing/).

## NOTICEABLY NEWSWORTHY

### UNCP Graduates 2nd Pre-licensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing Class

Members of the Spring 2008 pre-licensure BSN graduating class include Nina Badgett, Jacklon Beard, Ann Bell, Jennifer Berenics, Beth Chavis, Kelly Deal, Pamela Francis, Jessica Graham, Yoni Harris, Kellie Locklear, Quawanna Locklear, Ben McMillan, Blair Mills, Brittney Myers, Renotta Peterson, Mary Jill Reeves, April Scott, Linda Smith, Leah Stanley, Garrett Straughn, Liz Taylor, Claudia Thomas-Campbell, Naveisha Thompson, Amanda Titus, Jessica Tyler, Stephanie Tyner, Darcy Whitsitt, and Billie Wood.

Since graduation, the class of May 2008 has achieved an 83% pass rate the first time they took the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX). Well done new registered nurses!

In addition to the pre-licensure BSN graduates, the following RN-BSN students achieved their baccalaureate degrees: Sedina Brooks, RN; Jennifer Coughenour, RN; Donna Deese, RN; Renae Hester, RN; Jennifer Horne, RN; Connie Jones, RN; Mary-Elizabeth Mentzer, RN; Yvonne Sarvis, RN; Amanda Shackelford, RN; Sophia Thompson, RN; Sharon Tyler, RN.

Congratulations to our graduates!

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## Spring 2008 Introduction to Professional Nursing Ceremony



On May 1, 2008 Dr. Martha Raile Alligood delivered a message of hope and purpose to the 2008 nursing class of UNCP. The ceremony was held in the GPAC auditorium. Dr. Alligood is the Director of the PhD program of East Carolina College of Nursing and has made extensive contributions to the field of nursing in her impressive career as an educator. Dr. Alligood charged the graduating class with examining the art of nursing as it relates to the vital nature of interpersonal caring first brought to the profession of nursing by Dr. Martha Rogers.

Dr. Alligood addressed three major behaviors to be incorporated into the graduates professional practice; those of respect, responsibility, and empathy. She emphasized the importance of respecting each patient and taking time to sense their individuality rather than imposing one's own values on the patient. "Although concern for human beings and the welfare of others is inherent in nursing, it must be offered with respect for human freedom and individualized rights of persons (Alligood, p.58).

Alligood, M. (2002) A Theory of the Art of Nursing Discovered in Rogers' Science of Unitary Human Beings. *International Journal for Human Caring*. 6(2) 55-60.

### Nursing Department Holds First Family Night

On July 9, 2008, the nursing department opened its doors to the families of the incoming junior class. Feedback from the rising senior class indicated their support systems wanted more information about their courses, faculty, and resources in order to help them succeed. Students brought parents, significant others, and children, close to 100 in all, to this event.

At right, Dr. Synowiez answers questions from families.



### **Class Wins Award for Participation in March for Babies**

During the Spring 2008 semester, several students taking Nursing 3500, Family Nursing II, participated in the Lumberton March for Babies. The event, sponsored by the March of Dimes, was known as Walk America. The event was held on April 12, 2008 at Lumberton High School. The team, known as “Team KidZone” was given an award for being one of the top walking teams during a ceremony on July 23, 2008. Congratulations to Team KidZone!

### **Learning Enhancement Center Web Site Goes Live**

The University of North Carolina at Pembroke (UNCP) Department of Nursing opened the *Learning Enhancement Center (LEC)* in 2008 in an effort to provide comprehensive academic and social support services to all pre-nursing majors as well as students enrolled in the pre-licensure BSN program and RN-BSN completion option. The Center is located in the Nursing Building on the campus of UNCP in Pembroke. Students may make appointments with the Learning Enhancement Center Coordinator, Ms. Dena Evans by self-referring via the Center website or be referred by a faculty member.

The mission of the *Learning Enhancement Center* is to create a culturally responsive learning environment so that (1) students will have the greatest opportunity to successfully complete the nursing program and (2) graduates will have the nursing knowledge required for licensure and entry-level competence for professional nursing practice. The goals of the LEC are to improve the overall retention rate of students enrolled in the baccalaureate nursing program and to achieve a minimum of 90% passage rate per year of graduates on the NCLEX-RN exam on their first attempt, in order to increase the number of professional nurses capable of providing competent, quality, culturally-specific health care to diverse populations in their rural, underserved communities. For more information, please visit <http://www.uncp.edu/nursing/lec/>.

### **Students Enjoy Patch Adams**



Dr. Hunter Campbell Adams, better known as “Patch” Adams, shared his thoughts and ideas to a crowd of 850, November 3, at the Givens Performing Arts Center (GPAC) at The University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

Adams' life and experiences were the template for the film "Patch Adams," starring Robin Williams. He discussed the power of humor in his lecture titled, "Humor and Health."

Several students and faculty from the nursing department not only heard Dr. Adams' presentation, but attended a special dinner for him prior to the event. Pictured above are members of the junior class with Dr. Adams.

## THE GIFT OF ENDOWMENTS

### Anne Reynolds Belk Endowed Professorship

The late Anne Reynolds Belk of Charlotte, N.C., will be remembered with an endowed professorship in the Nursing Department at The University of North Carolina at Pembroke, creating a \$1 million endowment.



The announcement was made on August 4 by UNCP's Office for Advancement. Belk passed away on August 2, 2008, after a lengthy battle with cancer.

The gift of the Anne Reynolds Belk Endowed Professorship in Nursing was made through Irwin Belk, one of North Carolina's foremost business leaders and philanthropists. Anne Reynolds Belk was married to Carl Grotnes Belk, Irwin Belk's son.

*Irwin Belk*

The gift is for \$250,000, and UNCP will apply for matching funds from the C. D. Spangler Foundation and the North Carolina General Assembly's Distinguished Professors Endowment Trust Fund. Ultimately, the gift will result in a \$1 million endowment to assist in funding a faculty position in the Nursing Department.

### Caring Touch Endowed Scholarship

When it came to thanking the people who helped make Caring Touch Home Health Care one of the region's fastest growing and most successful businesses, CEO and President Donna Lowry listed family, staff, bankers, community and The University of North Carolina at Pembroke.



Lowry was at UNCP August 18 to announce a \$10,000 for an endowed nursing scholarship. "This gift is special because it comes from people who live in our community, our family," Chancellor Meadors said. "Second, we celebrate this gift because it supports our academic mission, and we are first and foremost an academic institution."

## WORTH NOTING

### Faculty and Staff Notations

**Dr. Barbara Synowiez**, Chair, Department of Nursing received tenure and was promoted to Professor in May 2008. Congratulations on your accomplishments!

**Ms. Cherry Beasley**, Assistant Professor, received the North Carolina Nurses Association (NCNA) Legislative/Political Nurse of the Year Award for 2008. This award goes to an NCNA member who participates in lobbying on nursing and health care issues, promotes the education of nurses in the use of the political process and the value of involvement in government affairs, and encourages peers to become involved in the political presence of nursing. Congratulations!

**Ms. Thelma Floyd**, Assistant Professor, and **Ms. Deborah Groves**, Assistant Professor, presented a workshop in April 2008 on Cultural Diversity for Long-term Care Staff for the Council on Aging in Fayetteville.

**Ms. Deborah Groves**, Assistant Professor, attended the Geriatric Nursing Education Consortium in St. Louis, Missouri on October 14 - 16, 2008. Part of this conference was to network with other schools of nursing about geriatric education in nursing curriculum.

**Ms. Michelle Rupard**, Assistant Professor, presented *Legal Issues In Obstetrics-Promoting Positive Outcomes* at Southern Regional Area Health Education Center August 28, 2008. This course, designed for nurses who work in the obstetrical and/or mother-baby healthcare environment, provided insight regarding current trends in obstetrical litigation, measures to obtain optimal patient outcomes, and helpful suggestions for staying out of court.

**Ms. Jennifer Twaddell**, Assistant Professor, attended a workshop entitled, "An OB Patient in the ICU! What Do I Do Now?" in Chapel Hill.

## CLASS NOTES AND NEWS

### Noteworthy Students

The following students made the either the Chancellor's List or Honor's List for the Spring 2008 semester. In order to qualify for the Chancellor's List, a student must maintain a grade point average (GPA) of 3.7 (out of 4.0) while taking at least 15 semester hours. In order to qualify for the Honors List, a student must maintain a grade point average (GPA) of 3.2 while taking at least 15 semester hours. Congratulations on this achievement!

Class of 2008 Graduates: Stephanie Tyner

Senior Prelicensure students: Deidre Chavis, Tiffany Corley, Kayse Edwards, Santwon McCutcheon, Megan Rusk, Jessica Wigglesworth, and Lakisha Williams,

Junior Prelicensure students: Anne Bowden, Stephanie Conner, Joanna Cooper, Stacie Fowler, Kitty Jacobs, Daniel Lister, Santana Locklear, Ava Lowery, Aleasia McDougald, Erica McGirt, Kristopher Meacham, Pamela Quizon, Katharina Rubio, Lindsay Sanderson, Simone Thuyns, Anitra Williams, and Diana Zhang.



**Ms. Crystal Hunt**, a rising senior, participated in a six-week internship in a variety of health care settings. She is pictured at left, first from the left.

Crystal, who is enrolled in UNCP's pre-licensure BSN program and interned at Southeastern Regional Medical Center's Nursing Department, said there were no drawbacks to the experience.

"This was the best way for me to spend my summer prior to entering my senior year as a nursing student," Hunt said. "Every opportunity I encountered was a learning experience which helped build on the foundation laid down in classes."

### **Alumni News**

**Jessica Crystal Hasty**, Class of 2007, married Avery Ellis Harris on October 18, 2008. Congratulations Jessica!

Calling all alumnae!! We want to hear from you. Please send your personal and career updates so that we might highlight you in the next issue of Nursing Notes. We are interested in marriages, births, professional development, school activities, work related activities, etc. This information may be submitted via email to [nursing@uncp.edu](mailto:nursing@uncp.edu) or via phone at 521-6522

## **EVENTS AND LINKS – TAKE NOTE!**

### **Dates to Remember**

December 13, 2008 – Graduation

January 5, 2009 – Beginning of Spring semester

February 28, 2009 – University Wide Open House

March 25, 2009 – Major's Meeting

April 4, 2009 – University Wide Open House

May 2, 2009 - Graduation

### **ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER**

This newsletter is published twice a year, in the spring and fall. Your comments and suggestions are welcomed via email to [nursing@uncp.edu](mailto:nursing@uncp.edu) or via phone at 521-6522.