



# NURSING NOTES

[www.uncp.edu/nursing/newsletter/](http://www.uncp.edu/nursing/newsletter/)



Volume IV

April 16, 2009

No. 2

Welcome to the Spring 2009 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

### Nursing as a Career



On December 2, 2008, students from Public Schools of Robeson County came to tour UNCP lab facilities as part of considering “Health Careers Opportunities”, a partnership with Southeastern Regional Medical Center (SRMC) where students can learn about nursing and allied health careers. This particular group of students is interested in the Nursing Opportunities, which is led by Natalie Russ who is SRMC’s Nursing Recruiter. The students met every two weeks from November through May. The tour and presentation were

## IN THIS ISSUE

### Noticeably Newsworthy

- Nursing as a Career
- Korean Students Visit Nursing Department
- Learning Through Simulation
- American Nursing Student Contest Winner
- Juniors Participate in Workshops
- Department offers Admission to Class of 2011
- Dr. Barbara B. Synowiez, Chair, Department of Nursing Invited to White House Regional Forum on Healthcare Reform
- Board of Nursing makes Visit

### Worth Noting

- Welcome New Faculty
- Faculty and Staff Notations

### Class Notes and News

- Noteworthy Students

### Events – Take Note!

- Dates to Remember

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.

conducted by Mrs. Donna Cutrell, Clinical Learning Center Coordinator. Pictured above are students participating in the tour along with one of their instructors.

### **Korean Students Visit Nursing Department**

The Korean students visited UNCP through the International Studies Program and English as a Second Language (ESL) course. They spent five weeks living on campus and visiting surrounding areas of interest, such as Washington DC. The eight nursing students (4 females and 2 males) are from Kyunghee University of Seoul, South Korea. They were accompanied by on the trip by one of their faculty members, Sunhee Park, PhD, MPH, RN who received her doctoral degree from the University of Pennsylvania, as did our own department chair, Dr. Barbara Synowiez. On February 2, 2009, Mrs. Donna Cutrell was asked to teach a 4-hour health assessment session using our health assessment lab. Pictured below are the Korean students who participated along with Mr. Reggie Brown, far left, graduate student from Duke University and Mr. Michael Hannan, ESL instructor, second from left, who accompanied the students to the Health Assessment lecture, and Mrs. Cutrell, center.



## Learning Through Simulation

As part of their Nursing 3450, Family Nursing I, course, the junior class participated in a four-hour lab simulation experience. In groups of 7-8 students, the class rotated through the health assessment and advanced care labs taking turns simulating care of a patient with pre-eclampsia. The simulation environment is safe, yet gives students the opportunity to practice basic skills such as communication with the patient, taking vital signs, interpreting lab values, starting intravenous lines, and inserting foley catheters. Students were also able to play the role of the patient as well as support persons, adding a different perspective to their role as the nursing student. Pictured above are Monique Nash as the patient, Shannon Hall as the nurse, and David Trinidad as the support person.



## American Nursing Student Raffle Winner



The American Nursing Student (ANS) association at UNCP held a fundraiser this spring. A one bedroom condo at Shell Island Resort in Wrightsville Beach, NC was donated to the ANS as a gift from Dominic and Tammy Golini of Wilmington, NC to use as a fundraiser for the organization. Department of Nursing ANS members and faculty advisors sold raffle tickets for the Valentine Weekend Getaway for two at the condo. Mr. Reid Caldwell, Vice President for Organizational Quality and Ancillary Services at

Southeastern Regional Medical Center, was the winner. Pictured above (left to right) are Mrs. Donna Cutrell, Mr. Caldwell, and Mr. Chad Saunders and Ms. Tiffany Corley, members of the senior class and ANS.

### **Juniors Participate in Workshops**

On March 13, 2009, the junior class joined employees of Cape Fear Valley Medical Center to learn more about the grief process and nursing care during child loss. The conference, Loss of an Infant: A Parent's Perspective - 2009, hosted by the Bereavement Committee of Cape Fear Valley, had presentations by Dr. Scott Cameron, Mrs. Susan Nalls, and a panel of parents who have experienced loss. Though this one day workshop is held annually, the presentation and perspective are always fresh as the parents and their personal experiences are different each year. Topics this year included Spirituality, The Journey Through Grief, and the Caregiver Role. Students participated in this workshop as part of their Nursing 3500, Family Nursing II, course.

*Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect* was the topic of a workshop attended by the junior class on March 20, 2009. The half-day workshop was led by Mrs. Vickie Pait, Executive Director of Families First, Inc of Whiteville, NC. The mission of Families First, Inc. is: To identify, address, and attempt to rectify issues related to and associated with domestic violence, sexual assault and their effects on adults, children, and the communities of Columbus and Bladen Counties.

The NC Jaycee Burn Center in Chapel Hill was the site of a clinical trip taken by the junior class on March 27, 2009. A former graduate of our program, Brooke Curro RN, BSN, presented a short lecture, arranged for the students to work side-by-side with the nursing staff on the unit to help give baths and wound care, as well as visit Air Care landing pad to talk with a member of the team that transports victims by helicopter from accident sites or other medical facilities. This clinical experience allowed the students to work directly with health care professions dealing with conditions such as wound care and fluid and electrolyte management.

### **Department offers Admission to the Class of 2011**

Our fifth pre-licensure BSN class was offered admission in March. Admission to the upper-division pre-licensure BSN option is highly competitive. A total of 50 students were chosen from approximately 135 qualified applicants. A welcome will be held May 15, 2009. Door prizes and decorations have been donated by the UNCP bookstore for the welcome event. All members of the class will be involved in new nursing student orientation June 8-12, 2009. A family night will be held June 24, 2009 where students can bring their family and friends to meet faculty, see classrooms, and tour labs. The class will formally begin classes on June 26, 2009.

### **Dr. Barbara B. Synowiez, Chair, Department of Nursing Invited to White House Regional Forum on Healthcare Reform**



Dr. Barbara Synowiez, Chair, Department of Nursing was invited by the Office of the Governor to attend the White House Regional Forum on Healthcare Reform in Greensboro, NC, March 31, 2009. The forum began with a welcoming video from President Obama and opening remarks were offered by Governor Beverly Perdue and Nancy-Ann DeParle, Director of the White House Office on Health Reform. Governor Perdue led the town hall forum which focused on bringing down health care costs, expanding

coverage, and enhancing capacity through innovation. Featured remarks were made from both patient and provider communities. According to Dr. Synowiez, from discussions held during the forum, nursing will be a key provider group in a changing healthcare delivery system. Opportunities for nurses to focus on health promotion and disease prevention approaches through collaborative practice models could play a major role in improving the health of the nation. North Carolina was one of five states scheduled to hold one of the forums as a means to engage diverse groups of stakeholders and elected officials in discussions about the future of healthcare reform in the United States.

### **Board of Nursing Makes Visit**

The North Carolina Board of Nursing Education Consultants visited the Department of Nursing March 16-17, 2009. The purposes of the visit were to perform a required three year evaluation of the nursing program as part of the process for new nursing programs and to review documents as part of a focused survey due to NCLEX-RN pass rates of less than 83% for the 2007 and 2008 graduating classes. The consultants commended the nursing faculty for the improvement in NCLEX-RN pass rate of 80% for 2008. The survey visit was successful with no recommendations for improvement by the Education Consultants.

### **WORTH NOTING**

#### **Welcome New Faculty**

**Ms. Joyce Beard**, Clinical Assistant Professor, joined the faculty in March 2009 with joint appointment to the Learning Enhancement Center. Ms. Beard received her ADN from Sandhills Community College, her BSN from UNC-Pembroke, and her MSN from UNC-Charlotte. Her clinical background is community health. Most recently, Ms. Beard was Child and Family Support Team Leader for Hoke County Schools.

**Ms. Janice Floyd**, Assistant Professor, joined the faculty in January 2009. She received her BSN from UNC-Chapel Hill and her MSN from Duke University. Ms. Floyd's clinical background is in labor and delivery and public health. For nearly twenty years before coming to UNC-Pembroke, Ms. Floyd worked at Brunswick Community College in various roles related to nursing and administration.

#### **Faculty and Staff Notations**

**Ms. Dena Evans**, Assistant Professor, passed the Certified Nurse Educator's examination. This certification communicates to students, peers, and the academic and health care communities that the highest standards of excellence are being met. Ms. Evans will also defend her dissertation proposal on April 20, 2009. Congratulations!

**Ms. Meki Graham** and **Ms. Dena Evans**, Assistant Professors, presented *Clickers: A Tool You Can Use: Audience Response System in the Classroom*. at this year's Digital Academy hosted by UNCP on Saturday, March 28, 2009. Ms. Graham and Ms. Evans have also submitted a proposal to present at the 2009 SENSES conference on the topic of *Student Response Systems*. A poster presentation has also been submitted.

**Ms. Brenda McPherson**, Administrative Secretary, made the Honor's List for the Fall 2008 semester. To qualify for the Honor's List, Ms. McPherson maintained a grade point average of 3.2 while taking at least 12 semester hours. Congratulations!

**Ms. Rosemarie Pilarczyk**, Assistant Professor, presented *Pre-Digital Learners in a Digital World* at this year's Digital Academy hosted by UNCP on Saturday, March 28, 2009.

**Ms. Michelle Rupard**, Assistant Professor, presented *Inpatient Obstetrics: Preparation and Review*, a two-day course to prepare nurses to take the Inpatient Obstetrics national certification exam, on March 12 & 13, 2009. This seminar is for obstetrical legal nurse consultants and nurse paralegals as well as nurses who work in areas such as postpartum, antepartal testing, labor and delivery, a medical office, or school of nursing. Ms. Rupard's presentation was in conjunction with Dr. Michelle Murray and Learning Resources International in Atlanta, Georgia. This event is scheduled to occur again in Memphis, Tennessee, May 19 & 20, 2009.

**Ms. Jennifer Twaddell**, Assistant Professor, attended the Southern Nursing Research Society (SNRS) conference in Baltimore, MD on February 11-14, 2009.

## CLASS NOTES AND NEWS

### Noteworthy Students

The following students made the **Honors List: Roberta Giles, Shannon Hall, and Anne Bowden**. To qualify for the Honors List, a student must maintain a grade point average (GPA) of 3.2 while taking at least 12 semester hours.  
([http://www.uncp.edu/news/2009/honors\\_list\\_dec\\_2008.htm](http://www.uncp.edu/news/2009/honors_list_dec_2008.htm))

### Noteworthy Alumni

**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**

April 30, 2009 – Spring Introduction to Professional Nursing Ceremony

May 2, 2009 – Spring Commencement

May 15, 2009 – New Student Welcome

June 8-12, 2009 – New Pre-licensure BSN Student Orientation

May 21 – June 25, 2009 – Summer Session I

June 24, 2009 – Family Night for New Students

June 26 – July 31, 2009 – Summer Session II

August 19, 2009 – Fall 2009 Semester Begins

October 15-17, 2009 – Fall Break