



# ALPHA CHI NEWS

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WILLIAM F. CONNELL  
SCHOOL OF NURSING

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Sigma  
Theta  
Tau

Dear Alpha Chi members:



Joan Agretelis,  
President

It is with tremendous honor that I write this message to you as the new President of Alpha Chi Chapter. I never imagined my being involved in an organization like Sigma Theta Tau International when I began my nursing career with an associate degree. Since then, I have continued my education and grown in the profession of nursing. Membership in STTI has helped me along this path. It is the members that make this chapter special. Let me share two of the many ways that members of Alpha Chi have made a difference to me.

Laurel Eisenhauer and Margaret Murphy, both Alpha Chi board members, encouraged me to submit a poster for presentation at one of the Biennial Conventions in Indianapolis. It sounded interesting. Then they told me that the Chapter would provide financial assistance. This made attending the conference very interesting, since I was a full-time graduate student with a family. Because of this support, I was able to experience the vitality of STTI. Before going, I was not what you would call an active member, but I returned with a new commitment to our Chapter.

Another Alpha Chi member, Carol Picard, was a classmate in the doctoral program. Now Vice-President of STTI International, Carol's enthusiasm and commitment to this organization was contagious. We have had many conversations about nursing and how STTI can, and

does, make a difference to individuals, the nation, and the world. I could continue for at least another page. I suppose that the real evidence is the fact that I now work more than a full-time job, have a husband and two pretty demanding children (thank God my husband is low-maintenance!), and I still make time for Alpha Chi.

Alpha Chi is successful because of the many dedicated members who volunteer their time and energy. We are fortunate to have a number of busy people who are willing to step up to the plate and take on yet another responsibility. Sandra Mott and the nominations committee did a phenomenal this year soliciting candidates for our open positions. We thank all of this year's candidates for their willingness to serve and their commitment to the chapter. The Chapter is especially indebted to our outgoing officers, President Susan Chase and secretary Nancy Hanrahan, for their exemplary service.

Personally, I am committed to creating opportunities for Alpha Chi Chapter to collaborate and partner with other nursing organizations. I see this as an effective way to maintain the vitality of the chapter and to reconnect with the many members who, for a variety of good reasons, don't attend chapter events. Most of us are also members of another professional nursing organization, and I think it would make sense for Alpha Chi to network and partner with the local chapters of these groups. We are already working toward a stronger connection with the area Sigma chapters. This year Alpha Chi has participated in the foundation of a consortium of eastern Massachusetts Sigma chapters. If you are a member of another professional nursing organization

(AACCN, ONS, AWOHNN, etc.) and would be interested in collaborating on a program or event, please e-mail me at [jagretelis@netscape.net](mailto:jagretelis@netscape.net). Also, please feel free to contact me if you have other suggestions or ideas for Alpha Chi Chapter activities.

I am always amazed at all of the services that STTI offers to its members. Visit the web site listed in the Newsletter to find out what you get as a member from national and Alpha Chi Chapter. As you read this Newsletter, please make note of the dates for this year's programs. Jot them down on your calendar, at home and at work. The Gorman lecture on October 23 is the first of this year's offerings that all promise to be worth the trip to Chestnut Hill. We'd love to have you join us. Who knows, this might be the right time for YOU to re-experience the vitality of STTI.

*Joan Agretelis  
Alpha Chi President  
July, 2002*

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# Diabetic Self-Care through a Web-TV<sup>®</sup> Connection

"Community Health Nursing in Action: Making Healthy Choices," brought more than fifty Alpha Chi members and School of Nursing students to the Clinical Innovations program in the Heights Room, Lower Campus, on January 23rd. Program Committee chairperson, Robin Wood, introduced Mary E. "Meg" Doherty, executive director of the Norwell Visiting Nurse Association, Inc. Ms. Doherty described a pilot project using Web-TV<sup>®</sup> to improve the diabetic education offered to VNA clients. The stimuli for development of the project included shortened hospital stays for acute episodes in chronic disease, co-morbidity, Medicare requirements for more efficiency in care delivery, and the need for "future thinking" about effective nursing practice. An interdisciplinary team at the Association including a nurse, dietician, and information systems manager developed the project.

The goal of the Web-TV<sup>®</sup> project was to empower diabetic senior citizens to self-manage their disease using 1) six weeks of daily two-way Web-TV<sup>®</sup> communication with a clinician, 2) access to Web-site Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for review of information, 3) client feedback on correlating "how they felt" with physiological measures, and 4) encouragement of Internet resource use for additional diabetic information. The project team also evaluated the cost-effectiveness of Web access for the management of diabetes and for other chronic conditions affecting seniors. This was the first of a series planned to use Web-TV<sup>®</sup> technology to provide case management and enhance self-care. The next project will focus on the care of congestive heart failure.

The project directors used the adult learner model of problem solving and motivation to design the educational component, and also considered diabetic vision problems and the relatively low percentage of elders who are computer-savvy. The team provided participants with Web-TV<sup>®</sup> converters and glucometers through a grant from the Council on Aging. Researchers addressed issues of

confidentiality and potential liability with user-number-only access to client data, and a focus on the wellness model, not provision of medical advice. They also reviewed the credibility of existing medical web-sites prior to their inclusion in the resources list.

While the project enrolled only a small number of participants, a survey of participants upon completion of the six-week project indicated that more than half increased their level or frequency of exercise and increased the frequency of their blood glucose monitoring. One hundred percent of the participants stated that they 1) were satisfied with the Web-TV<sup>®</sup> project, 2) believed their diabetic control was more effective, 3) were better able to count carbohydrates, 4) improved their knowledge of diabetes, and 5) felt more confident about their ability to self-manage their disease and use Internet resources. An additional outcome was the prompt discovery and resolution of two participants' episodes of dangerously low blood glucose levels. Participants received a certificate of completion at a project-ending ceremony.

Prior to the project presentation, the Alpha Chi Chapter members held their January business meeting. President Susan Chase reviewed the accomplishments of the Chapter at the Biennial Convention in Indianapolis, updated members on the proposed consortium of regional Sigma chapters, held the election of new student and community leader members, and discussed the finances of the Chapter. The members also enjoyed an excellent dinner.



**Mary E. "Meg" Doherty** discussing the empowering of diabetic senior citizens to self-manage their disease.

# Nursing Research and Wound Management

Virginia Capasso,  
PhD, RN

The opportunity to build "knowledge for practice" for nursing in the area of wound management is clear. Vacuum-assisted closure (V.A.C.) has strong anecdotal and theoretical support, but there is very limited evidence supporting its use in practice. Review of the state-of-the-science for V.A.C. and nearly every other wound care treatment, except wound cleansing and lower extremity compression for venous stasis ulcers, reveals a dearth of supporting research literature. My team of nurse co-investigators at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston have seized the opportunity to conduct a study of "the lived experience of patients who have sustained perioperative wound dehiscence following arterial reconstructive surgery and treatment with V.A.C. dressings." The study is funded by a small grant from the Harvard Institute for Nursing Healthcare Leadership.

V.A.C. exerts negative pressure on a wound bed. The negative pressure promotes angiogenesis – the formation of a new capillary blood vessel network – leading to the formation of granulation tissue, which fills the wound cavity. The negative pressure also facilitates the removal of excess exudate, debris and bacteria from the wound bed. V.A.C. therapy requires the use of specific equipment and supplies: pump, drainage collection canister and tubing, foam dressing, and transparent occlusive film. Wound characteristics determine the type of foam that is used in the wound bed, that is, dense white foam or porous black foam. The dense white foam is used to pack tracts, which cannot be visualized directly, deep wounds close to blood vessels, and wounds which contain friable, bleeding tissue. The porous black foam is used to create the bridge for negative pressure in the majority of wounds. After cleansing the wound and applying skin protectant to the wound margin, the V.A.C. dressing is applied according to the following general protocol: 1) cut and apply one inch strips of transparent occlusive film to the skin along the margin of the wound bed; 2) cut the porous black or dense white foam to the size of the wound (that is, to avoid pressure on the margin of the wound) and lay it in the wound bed; 3) lay the tubing on the

foam in the wound bed; 4) cover the tubing with another small piece of black foam; 5) cover the entire wound bed and a 1.5 inch margin with transparent occlusive film, ensuring an air-tight seal; 6) connect the tubing to the canister; 7) insert the canister into the pump; and 8) initiate V.A.C. therapy at a negative pressure between 75 and 125 mmHg.

Review of the literature, undertaken to synthesize a standard of care and guideline for teaching patients who undergo V.A.C. therapy, reveals that there are only 32 citations in the literature. These



citations include two randomized controlled trials (RCT) involving human subjects. There are also three non-randomized prospective studies, one non-experimental retrospective chart review, 10 case reports, and 10 review articles. The two RCT have different end points, although they both provide weak evidence suggesting that the V.A.C. is superior to saline dressings in promoting wound healing. The citations pertain to traumatic, orthopedic, sternal, and gastrointestinal wounds, skin grafts, muscle flaps, and pressure ulcers. There are no citations related to perioperative vascular wounds. In addition, there are no studies that have explored the experience of wound healing and V.A.C. therapy from the perspective of the patient. The following three cases illustrate the growing clinical usage of a novel technology in the treatment of wounds.

Mr. B. is a 47-year old Russian immigrant who sustained a perioperative wound dehiscence due to infection following femoro-popliteal artery bypass graft surgery to restore blood flow. He was readmitted to the hospital and underwent extensive surgical debridement. Only a thin layer of tissue remained intact over the arterial graft. The goals of perioperative wound management were 1) avoid further necrosis and disruption of the graft, 2) eradicate infection, and 3) promote rapid healing. The interdisciplinary team chose V.A.C. as the first-line topical therapy. Mr. B.'s dressing was changed three times per week (that is, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday), per the usual standard of care. He became a partner in the dressing changes, notifying his assigned nurse of the scheduled dressing change and coaching newly assigned nurses through the wound measurement and dressing protocol. During each dressing change, he anxiously awaited the unveil-

ing of the wound and serial assessment of the progress of wound healing. For Mr. B., successful wound closure represented limb salvage.

Mrs. C. is a 54-year-old white female who has recurrent wound dehiscence following bilateral above-knee (AK) amputations for extensive tissue necrosis due to severe arterial insufficiency. The stenosis in her femoral arteries precludes any further reconstructive surgery to improve her blood supply and promote healing. Therefore, the team considered options for topical wound therapy that would avoid additional injury while gently softening devitalized tissue and promoting wound closure. Manipulation of Mrs. C.'s stumps is excruciatingly painful requiring twice daily dosing of methadone and pre-treatment boluses of intravenous hydromorphone. The V.A.C. dressing was selected due to the lower frequency of dressing changes and the gentler autolytic debridement which occurs

with the V.A.C. than with chemical debriding pastes. Mrs. C. experienced a great deal of pain while the nursing staff attempted to create a seal over the wound with the V.A.C.'s occlusive dressing. However, she reported no discomfort during continuous V.A.C. therapy at 75 mmHg pressure.

Mr. L. is an 82-year-old white male who had two open calf wounds following emergent incision and drainage of two abscesses. Initially, since the attempted reversal of the patient's chronic anticoagulation with warfarin was not attained, achieving hemostasis in the wound bed required application of Surgi-cel and wound packing as well as prolonged manual pressure. Each time the wound packing was changed, bleeding resumed. The surgeons consulted with the nurse practitioner from the Wound Center about the application of the V.A.C. to the wound bed. Adaptations in the usual V.A.C. protocol, including the application of Surgi-cel and a primary V.A.C. dressing of dense white foam, promoted hemostasis within a few hours and wound closure in four weeks.

In the future, this study may be replicated with patients undergoing V.A.C. therapy for other etiologies. In addition, after technology is identified or developed to accurately and precisely measure

wound volume, a series of randomly controlled studies may be conducted to examine the cost and efficacy of V.A.C. therapy as compared to standard therapy with normal saline wet-to-dry dressings and other innovative wound care products. The role of the nurse scientist in clinical practice promotes clinical investigations to generate new knowledge and to direct nursing practice in wound management.

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The above article is the first of a planned series. Articles for future Newsletters are welcome. Please contact the editor at [bmadden@atthi.com](mailto:bmadden@atthi.com).



**Standing, left to right:** Megan C. Kearney, Jessie J. Sherwood, Margaret Ann Driscoll.  
**Seated, left to right:** Caitlin E. Erikson, John A. Hoyos, Melanie Sue Sullivan.



**Standing, left to right:** Jennifer Derrah, Sara Elizabeth Mahoney, Kristina Anne Shultz, Kate E. Reynolds.  
**Seated, left to right:** Melissa Ann Gentile, Mary A. Curtin, Katrina Wain.



**Standing, left to right:** Ellen O'Rourke, Gretchen M. Ehrenzeller, Candace Bignell.  
**Seated, left to right:** Sun O. Lee, Joyce David, Kiely M. Howard.

## *“healing hearts - mending lives: n*

Cheryl D. Kane was the featured speaker on April 21, 2002 at the ceremony where she was inducted into Alpha Chi Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International as a Community Leader. Cheryl is a 1997 baccalaureate graduate of the William B. Connell School of Nursing and a 1982 Master's graduate of the Lynch School of Education.

Cheryl chose to study nursing after experiences as a teacher and a leader in a religious community. Her friend and future husband, Jim Kane, an associate admissions director at the college, fostered her choice of the nursing major as preparation for her mission to serve marginalized people. Jim became terminally ill with a brain tumor in the second year of their marriage and Cheryl's senior year as a student. She credits faculty support for enabling her to graduate on time. In 1997, Cheryl received the Siena Medal, donated on the fiftieth anniversary of the School of Nursing by Paul and Denise Roberto Delaney and named for St. Catherine of Siena, who translated her experience of personal loss into faith filled service to care of lepers despised by society. Cheryl was voted by her classmates as “the nurse classmates would want to care for them and those they love, the nurse who exemplifies the Jesuit ideals of competence and conscience.” Her address at Alpha Chi's Induction Ceremony attested to the continuity of her competence and conscience in nursing those often despised by society.

Cheryl held the attention of her audience of inductees, their families, faculty and Alpha Chi officers. She described how her work as an

outreach nurse for Boston Health Care for the Homeless influenced her personal and professional philosophy and development, as well as giving her nursing care planning insights. She told poignant stories to exemplify this theme. Goals for street clients may be to use a full course of antibiotics, be sober for a longer period, leave an abusive relationship, enter medical respite care, or return to supportive families. Cheryl told of a resident among the jersey barriers of the Big Dig who suffered a heart attack after being thrown into Boston Harbor. Cheryl was asked to find and help this man who was dressed only in a “johnny” after leaving a hospital against advice. He refused the vibrant orange coat she offered, saying nobody else wanted a coat of that color. When Cheryl told him it was a favorite possession of her late husband, he responded with sympathy and asked to hear her story. Coincidentally, this was the anniversary of their wedding. Cheryl's client listened to her story with compassion. Client and nurse benefited from this interaction: Cheryl received emotional care from an unlikely source, her client received physical warmth from the vibrant coat he still wears and vigilantly protects.

Cheryl showed Nightline's depiction of Boston Health Care for the Homeless (entitled “Street Doctors” but featuring nurses Denise Petrullo and Toni Abraham, the latter an alumna of the graduate nursing program, as well as Jim O'Connell, MD). The film emphasized the promise to clients: “If you fall down, we will pick you up and if you fall down again, we will pick you up again.” Cheryl told of a woman

whose alcoholism led to her leave a supportive husband and son and to endure life on the street, leading to hepatitis and HIV infections and an abusive partner. She had fallen into difficulty often, yet the nurses kept coming. Cheryl gained insight into planning care for this woman. She noted that both client and nurse had idyllic goals. This client achieved four months of sobriety before she came to an emergency room with a fatal pneumonia. What others might deem a failure, Cheryl recognized as goal achievement for this client. Cheryl's respect for her clients and her efforts to understand their needs and goals touched professional and lay audience alike. Her way of nursing exemplifies the meaning of the Siena Medal.

Following a brunch for inductees and their friends and families, President Susan Chase, the Eligibility Committee, and Vice President Joyce Pulcini conducted the induction of seventeen undergraduates, eighteen Master's and two doctoral students, and four Community Leaders into the Chapter. The President thanked the Program Committee, chaired by Robin Wood, assisted by Katherine L. Drozdowski, Lisa Kelley and Dorothy McCabe, as well as the Eligibility Committee, staffed by Senior Counselor Patricia Tabloski, Junior Counselor Nanci Haze, and Dianne Hagen, for the successful recruitment of worthy candidates for induction, the well-planned ceremony, and an enjoyable social gathering.

## **Forty-One Inducted into Alpha**



**Standing, left to right:** Whitney Wieggl Pritham, Michael E. Casey, Julie R. Wood, Rachel L. Senseman, Rebecca Jane Allen.

**Seated, left to right:** Julie A. Nielsen, Bambi Alexander-Banys, Jessica Hope Moon.

**Left to right:** Martha Lee Reynolds, Cheryl D. Kane, Pamela M. Senesac.

**International Member** Maribel Sarcibar.

# nursing in the homeless community”

## Undergraduate Students:

- |                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| *Courtney E. Audette  | Sara Elizabeth Mahoney   |
| Mary A. Curtin        | Andrea Teresa Mutascio   |
| *Anna M. DaSilva      | *Nicole Pauline Nardella |
| **Jennifer R. Derrah  | Kate E. Reynolds         |
| Margaret A. Driscoll  | Jessie J. Sherwood       |
| Caitlin E. Erickson   | Kristina Anne Shultz     |
| **Melissa Ann Gentile | Melanie S. Sullivan      |
| John A. Hoyos         | ** Katrina A. Wain       |
| Megan C. Kearney      |                          |

- \*Semester Abroad – 2002
- \*\*Semester Abroad - 2001

## Masters Students:

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Bambi Alexander-Banys   | Kiely M. Howard        |
| Rebecca Jane Allen      | Sun O. Lee             |
| Candace M. Bignell      | Jessica Hope Moon      |
| Katheryn L. Bitner      | Julie A. Nielsen       |
| Michael E. Casey        | Ellen S. O'Rourke      |
| Rachel Cintolo          | Whitney Wieggl Pritham |
| Joyce David             | Carole S. Rudman       |
| Gretchen M. Ehrenzeiler | Rachel L. Senseman     |
| Julia Beth Graham       | Julie R. Wood          |

## Doctoral Students:

- Teresa M. Eliot Roberts
- Pamela M. Senesac

## Community Leaders:

- Cheryl D. Kane
- (see above article)

## Mary-Ellen Murphy

A graduate of Salem State College, as chief nurse for two army hospitals she organizes and runs symposiums for Army nurses and physicians, supporting ICU training and baccalaureate completion programs for Army nurses. She has also instituted a parish nurse program.

## Martha Lee Reynolds

She originated the health classes at Fitch High School (CT), providing liaison to community organizations who present issues of drug dependency, sexual harassment and assault, and HIV prevention. A facilitator for “Parents and Educators for Eliminating Racism in Schools” for the Connecticut Education Association and parent and community groups, she has also volunteered in Haiti for two programs that taught prevention of infectious diseases (in French) to health workers and to school children.

## Maribel Sarcibar

The director of the nursing program at Universidad de Navarra in Pamplona, Spain, she is currently completing her doctorate in philosophy and nursing science. A distinguished nursing leader, she has pioneered the development of nursing research and theory in Spain, advanced the use of nursing language in major university hospitals, promoted international nursing conferences at the University, and used the media to publicize nursing science contributions to Spanish nurses.

## Transfer Members:

The Chapter would like to take note of new members by transfer. The following have been identified. If you are a new transfer member please let us know and we will introduce you also. Contact the Editor at [bmadden@attbi.com](mailto:bmadden@attbi.com)

Janice Goodman is a clinical specialist in psychiatric/mental health nursing, a family therapist and a lactation consultant. A doctoral candidate at BCSON and a dual member of Alpha Phi Chapter at Hunter College, she is the mother of four young children and a foster son from Sudan.

Sandra Hulnick, formerly a member of Iota Delta Chapter at SUNY-Utica, is a master's prepared clinician in women's health, and is employed at the neonatal intensive care unit of Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Lisa Kelley, a doctoral candidate at BCSON, is a dual member of Delta Mu at Yale University.

Betty Morgan, a doctorally-prepared psychiatric clinical nurse specialist, from Delta Mu Chapter at Yale University, is employed at Lemuel Shattuck Hospital.

Heather Vallent, originally of Iota Omega Chapter at the University of Scranton, has been in the Boston area for two years and is a nurse on a medical unit at Massachusetts General Hospital.

# Chi Chapter on April 21, 2002

**Teresa Roberts**, a doctoral student at Boston College, won the Mary Pekarski Memorial Essay Award for her vision of nursing in the future. The Award was presented at the Chapter's Annual Meeting on May 8, 2002.

\* \* \*

Dear Diary,

What a day! First, rounds with my students at 6:30am at the hospital. They're getting excited about how patients on the floor are sharing multicultural folk health systems. I have to admit, I'm still shocked that nursing's focus on cultural competence in the 1990s and 2000s had evolved into such a powerful patient-driven movement. The fact that patients share folk knowledge with each other, study, and advance knowledge development themselves, using healthcare professionals as consultants and technicians, is such a wonderful thing to see. And the students are making the leap, understanding how they can be both teacher to and student of their patients. Of course, as always they're teaching me as well!

In the afternoon, I was able to see some of my own patients. *N* has finished the first draft of her book about HIV. From the time we started formulating it last year until now, it has undergone many transformations, just like *N* herself. She is a wonderful example of how a person can confront an illness in positive ways and extract what she needs. In *N*'s case, it was creativity and focus. I hope she ends up publishing – I think her book has great potential to engender discussion of what HIV means now that we have a vaccine.

*R* also came in for his monthly contraceptive, and we have come up with a terrific idea. He's from Honduras, and he'll be visiting home for a few months this summer. With input from some nurses I know in Honduras, he'd like to create informational groups for Honduran men to learn more about male contraception, also focus groups to learn more about what family planning resources Honduran men want. I might even be able to send down a nursing student or two to collaborate on developing the groups. I love it when my patients really take off with teaching and doing research themselves. That's the new paradigm.

And guess what, Diary? I got the folk interventions research grant! Now that tertiary care patients are sharing folk health traditions and treatments, we need some good quantitative measures to show improved outcomes. It seems so obvious on the floor; there's no more sense of isolation on the floors like there used to be. One patient will be teaching meditation or yoga to another; one is learning an essential health skill, and the other is feeling useful and smart. (How often was it that patients felt useful on a med-surg floor in the 1990's?) Of course they're feeling healthier! And now there's funding for the outcomes study to prove it!

Qualitative research showing what it's like at the hospital will also be crucial, I think, to share with hospitals not familiar with the new models. The nurses I know in China and India can't wait to see images of how their traditions have finally become important in Western hospitals.

Juggling teaching, research and clinical work, I realize that they blend into each other so much. Just like they say, praxis informs research which informs theory and the other way around. Today is one of those days I can really feel the truth of that.

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It was with great pleasure that the Clinical Research Fund Committee awarded Nancy Hanrahan, doctoral candidate in the Connell School of Nursing at Boston College, the 2002 Clinical Research Grant at the Annual Meeting of the Alpha Chi Chapter. Nancy has been an active member of the Alpha Chi Chapter since 1992, has just completed a term as secretary to the Chapter, and is currently the Project Director for Dr. Ann Burgess on a study identifying forensic markers for elder sexual abuse. Nancy is also a consultant specializing in the mental health field promoting the integration of financial and clinical data systems.

Nancy's proposal, "Utilization, expenditures, and practice patterns: Comparing primary care providers and mental health specialists delivering mental health services to the aged Medicare beneficiary in 1999," is a study that will use a 5% national samples for analysis of mental health services. The analysis will assess similarities and differences among providers of mental health services looking at primary care and mental health providers. There will be a particular emphasis placed on the work of Advanced Practice Nurses (APN). Since the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, APNs are directly reimbursed for their services. This means, for the first time ever, a national database will be assessed for practice patterns of APNs. She will continue this research in a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania under the guidance of Dr. Linda Aiken.

The Alpha Chi Chapter's Clinical Research Fund is seeking to continue to fund nursing research. Each year, Alpha Chi Chapter sets aside \$5000 to support research that contributes to the advancement of clinical nursing. Applications are available on the Chapter's WEB site at <http://www.bc.edu/sigma> or by calling Diane Carroll at (617) 724-4934. Grant applications are due each February for review and are awarded at the chapter's annual meeting.



**Nancy Hanrahan** (r) accepts the Clinical Research Fund award from Diane Carroll, Chair of the Fund Committee.



## Jean A. O'Neil, Associate Professor Emeritus

On April 4, 2002, colleagues and friends including many members of Alpha Chi Chapter gathered at BC's Gasson Hall to celebrate Dr. Jean A. O'Neil's retirement from active teaching after thirty-three years at the School of Nursing. A highlight of the celebration was a song parody in her honor written and performed by a large group of students. Jean is "double eagle" from Boston College, and earned her doctorate from Boston University. She was also Faculty Fellow at Harvard Medical School's Geriatric Education Center. After a nursing service career at the Brockton and the Belmont-Watertown Visiting Nurse Associations and at Carney Hospital, Jean taught at Catherine Laboure School of Nursing before coming to Boston College School of Nursing in 1969. She taught primarily in the undergraduate program, but also served on master's theses and doctoral dissertation committees, and was known as "Dean Jean" when she served as Acting Associate Dean of the Undergraduate Program.

In a tribute at the reception, Laurel Eisenhauer highlighted Jean's career at Boston College in the following areas:

**1) Teaching and dedication to students, potential, past and present.** Her "Mrs. Wisdom" and "Pat and Mike," case studies that illustrate human lifespan development concepts, and are well known to all undergraduates, are now featured on Jean's new website. Jean's excellence in teaching was acknowledged by an Alumni Award, a university nomination for a Carnegie Teaching Award, and the first University Distinguished Teaching Award. She was also nominated as an "Awesome Woman" during the celebration of the university's Women's Resource Center, and was a Benjamin E. Mays Mentor for AHANA students, who recently paid her a special tribute.

**2) Recruiter and cheerleader for nursing.** Jean's enthusiasm and dedication to nursing created positive impressions of nursing as a career and of Boston College as THE school of nursing to attend. She was "always there" for the recruitment activities, at conventions and meetings in the Boston area and across the country, warmly greeting alumnae as well as potential students.

Jean received an American Journal of Nursing Media Award for the video she produced, "An Education for Your Career." She also co-produced a video for the fiftieth anniversary of the Connell School of Nursing.

**3) Scholarship.** Jean's primary interests were care giving and nursing diagnoses, particularly in patients experiencing ambulatory surgery; she was awarded a federal grant for work in this area. She recently received a "Unique Contributions Award" from the North American Nursing Diagnosis Association and also serves on their review board. She has made numerous presentations in the U.S., as well as in Sweden, Australia and Canada.

**4) Contributions to Alpha Chi Chapter.** Jean served as president from 1996 to 1998, and was a member of many committees and the Executive Board. The newsletter she edited won an Award for Overall Excellence from Sigma Theta Tau International.

**5) Jean as a person.** She is a loyal friend, an advocate for those who have less, and someone who has a supreme belief in the goodness and potential of everyone. The entire Chapter celebrates her achievements, her many good works, her dedication to Boston College and to the School of Nursing, her unselfish gift of time and talents. We wish her well in this new phase in her life. She is not lost to us, for she has promised to continue to contribute to the success of Alpha Chi Chapter. In addition, the Connell School of Nursing faculty voted to establish a "Jean A. O'Neil Award" which was presented to a graduate at commencement.



Jean O'Neil (r) with Laurel Eisenhauer.



On May 8, 2002, Alpha Chi Chapter held its Annual Meeting and Research Program in the Shea Room of Conte Forum. Prior to the formal meeting, approximately fifty Chapter members enjoyed a light supper, opportunity to network, and the research poster presentations. New members of the Chapter in attendance (some transfer, some newly inducted) were introduced.

With President Susan Chase presiding, Chapter officers and Committee chairs presented their annual reports. Joyce Pulcini, chair of the Bylaws Committee, reviewed amendments to the Chapter Bylaws mandated by changes in the International Bylaws. The 2002-3 budget was distributed. Results of the Spring election were announced by Sandra Mott, chair of the Nominating Committee. Christina Smith Stille, chair of the Awards and Scholarship Committee, presented the following Chapter awards: Pamela Burke of Children's Hospital and the Society for Adolescent Medicine received the Excellence in the Art of Nursing Award; Diane Haleem for her work on collegiate alcoholism and Joanne O'Sullivan for her work at the Sidney Borum walk-in clinic shared the Excellence in Innovative Clinical Practice Award; and Teresa Roberts won the Mary Pekarski Award for her essay on the future of nursing (see related article). Diane Carroll, chair of the Clinical Research Fund Committee presented a grant check to Nancy Hanrahan in support of her doctoral research.

The research portion of the evening included a presentation by Dr. Judith Vessey (see related article). Poster presentations at the meeting included "Comfort Levels of Nursing Students and Faculty Regarding Clinical Assignment to a Patient with AIDS," by Anne Durkin and "Capacity for Direct Attention and Psychological Distress in Patients Undergoing Percutaneous Coronary Intervention," by Diane Carroll and Lynne Chevoga of Massachusetts General Hospital. A previous grant from Alpha Chi Chapter's Clinical Research Fund to Diane Carroll and Glenys Hamilton of Massachusetts General Hospital generated a poster presentation on "Health Status and Quality of Life at Initial Therapy in Two Cohorts of Survivors of Life-Threatening Arrhythmias."



Anne Durkin explains her research poster to Alpha Chi members.

### New Alpha Chi Chapter Officers Elected

At the Chapter's Annual meeting on May 8, the results of this year's election were announced. The following members were sworn in and took office at the close of the meeting.

- President – Joan Agretelis (from President-elect)
- Secretary - Joanne O'Sullivan
- Senior Counselor - Nanci Haze (from Junior Counselor)
- Junior Counselor - Rosanna DeMarco
- Nominations Committee - Jean O'Neil (chair) and Sharon Cucchetti

For Spring 2003, the Nominations Committee will be seeking candidates for the offices of President-elect, Vice-President, Treasurer, Counselor and one member of the Nominations Committee. This year was the first time in many years that the Chapter had a contested ballot for every office, a practice that the Executive Board would like to continue. Please consider your interest in serving the Chapter in any of these capacities, or if you know of other members who might be interested, please contact Jean O'Neil, chair of the Nominations Committee, at [oneil@bc.edu](mailto:oneil@bc.edu).



Susan Chase conducting her last meeting as Chapter president.

## Judith Vessey,

PhD, FAAN, Associate Professor, Boston College School of Nursing, presented a captivating review of her research on teasing and bullying in today's youth at the May 8th Alpha Chi annual meeting and research program. She provided a review of the teasing and bullying literature and of her work thus far in developing and administering a scale to measure antecedents and consequences of teasing.

# Sticks and Stones Can Break My Bones



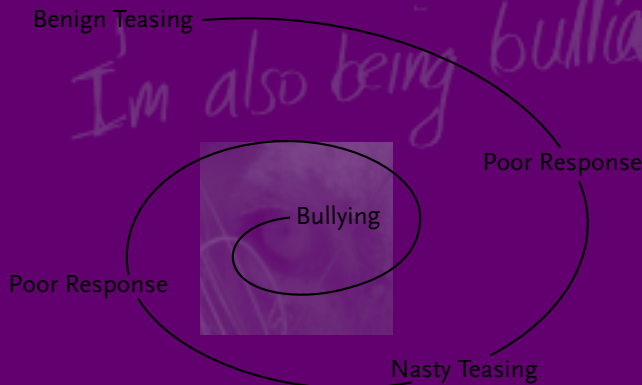
## ...and Names can also Hurt

Dr. Vessey first became interested in teasing and bullying while working with children with chronic conditions such as diabetes, anorexia and developmental disabilities. She learned that targets for teasing included deviation from norms of physical appearance, as well as suffering from chronic conditions. Dr. Vessey distinguished between teasing and bullying. Teasing is a lighthearted interchange that is humorous but annoying and has ambiguous and subjective meaning. Some teasing is normal. Dr. Vessey showed a normal curve with "no teasing" at one tail, "always teased" at the other tail and "some teasing" in the middle of the curve. Having "no teasing" is associated with being an outsider and unhappy; "always teased" connotes being picked on and also makes a child unhappy. Bullying, on the other hand, includes violent altercations including deliberate physical, emotional or verbal abuse of another child. Dr. Vessey depicted a downward spiral where benign teasing that

generates a poor response by the recipient can lead to increasingly nasty teasing and bullying from the instigator. Consequences for recipients can be poor self esteem and body image, difficulty with peer relationships and academic difficulty. For the instigator, it can lead to becoming an adult bully. At worst, teasing and bullying can lead to youth violence, suicide, assault and homicide.

Dr. Vessey and her research team, which includes Alpha Chi members June Horowitz, Mary Duffy, Barbara Munro, Joyce David, Jennifer Spencer and Jessie Sherwood, are currently developing the child adolescent teasing scale (CATS). The exploratory Phase 1 of the project consists of focus group discussions with a purposive sample of 11 to 14 year old adolescents of varied race/ethnic backgrounds, with and without chronic illness, from urban and rural settings and of varying socioeconomic status. The study is being carried out in Boston, Albuquerque, NM and McComb, MS. The purpose of the qualitative study is to identify themes related to teasing, what it is, who is teased, its antecedents and consequences. Phase 2 is an instrument development phase. Items derived from the themes, using the adolescents' own language, will be administered to 600 – 800 adolescents. Parents will provide demographics and complete the Pediatric Symptom checklist. Testing will be repeated in three weeks to establish test-retest reliability. The project has received outstanding support for further development including NINR support for studying underrepresented minorities and a BC teaching grant. Plans for "Kitty Cats" to be developed for younger children and a Spanish translation for Hispanic populations are underway.

Researchers hope to identify teasing recipients who are most vulnerable and provide them with social skills that will make them less vulnerable to bullying. Dr. Vessey described a fascinating area of study. She and her team are to be commended for their outstanding research project.



Judith Vessey gives vivid examples to illustrate the concept of "teasing."

Humanistic disaster response:  
Nursing presence at the  
World Trade Center  
The Rev. Edward J. Gorman, S.J. Lecture  
October 23, 2002

Alpha Chi Chapter will be the host for the 2002 Rev. Edward J. Gorman Lecture, co-sponsored with Pi Epsilon Chapter of Regis College. The evening of October 23, 2002 will begin with a Chapter Business Meeting at 5:30 in the Shea Room, Conte Forum. Supper and opportunity for networking will follow at 6:15, and the program at 7:00 will feature Marie LeBlanc, R.N., who will continue the annual theme of this lecture series with "Humanistic disaster response: Nursing presence at the World Trade Center." Ms. LeBlanc is the nurse manager of Surgery and Trauma at Massachusetts General Hospital and a member of the National Disaster Team who helped in the rescue of survivors and care for the rescue workers after September 11, 2001. Her topic should be of great interest to Alpha Chi members, and all are invited to attend. Mark your calendars now.

Sigma Theta Tau, Alpha Chi Chapter  
Proudly announces competition for the Annual Award for  
Excellence in Innovative Nursing Practice

Purpose: 1. To recognize an innovative development in nursing that contribute to improvement in patient care  
2. To foster professional and public awareness of achievements in nursing

Eligibility: Any individual or group of registered nurses who is/are member/s of Alpha Chi Chapter

Deadline: April 10, 2002

Amount: \$500

Criteria: A nursing innovation including:  
1. A creative, original approach to a clinical situation  
2. Implementation of the innovation in nursing practices  
3. Evidence of improved patient care outcomes

Submission of Nominations:

1. Five copies of a 500 word description of the innovation that includes the Criteria for Selection listed above.
2. Two letters of support for the nomination from colleagues
3. One copy of resume
4. Include a cover page with title of project and submitter's name, address, and telephone number

Submit the above to:

Christina Stille  
Chair, Alpha Chi Scholarship and Awards Committee  
510 Washington Street  
Holliston, MA 01746

The committee reserves the right not to recommend the award if an acceptable nomination is not received.

Founders' Night  
Program for Potential Members

Wednesday October 2, 2002  
6:00-7:30 PM  
Cushing 411-412

Do you have friends, colleagues or classmates who are not members of Sigma Theta Tau International? Or do you know current members not living near their induction chapter who might like to transfer or become dual members in Alpha Chi Chapter?

Invite them to attend Founders' Night on October 2 at Cushing Hall. This will be an opportunity to learn about STTI and the scholarly and social activities available through membership in Alpha Chi Chapter. This will be an informal evening event where potential candidates can meet members of the Chapter, learn about the origins and purposes of STTI, and find out how they can become members. Light refreshments will be served. If you know of someone who might be interested but unable to attend this event, please contact Nanci Haze, Senior Counselor at [haze@bc.edu](mailto:haze@bc.edu) or Joellen Hawkins, Chair of the Heritage Committee at [hawkinsj@bc.edu](mailto:hawkinsj@bc.edu).

Any member of the Chapter is welcome to join in this event and talk to candidates about their Alpha Chi experiences.

Sigma Theta Tau, Alpha Chi Chapter  
Proudly announces competition for the Annual Award for  
The Mary Pekarski Memorial Award  
For an Outstanding Essay

Eligibility: Undergraduate and graduate student members of Alpha Chi Chapter

Deadline: April 10, 2002

Amount: \$200-\$1000

Criteria: A 500 word essay describing how you see yourself at a time in the future to be determined by you. From the perspective of that future time, describe how you exemplify excellence in nursing

Criteria by which essays will be judged:

1. Creative thought
2. Originality
3. Presentation
4. General writing style

Submit the above to:

Christina Stille  
Chair, Alpha Chi Scholarship and Awards Committee  
510 Washington Street  
Holliston, MA 01746

This year members from Sigma Theta Tau chapters in the Boston Area met to begin to discuss the formation of a Boston Area Consortium. In addition to Alpha Chi, some of the chapters who have thus far participated or expressed an interest in participating are: Theta at Large (Simmons/Curry/BU), Theta Alpha ( U. Mass. Boston), Gamma Epsilon (Northeastern), Eta Omega (U. Mass. Lowell), Pi Epsilon at Large (Regis/Emmanuel), Iota Phi at Large (Worcester State/U. Mass. Worcester), Theta Kappa (U. Mass. Dartmouth), and Epsilon Beta (Fitchburg State). Interest as well as geography will drive membership and any chapter in the region is welcome. Maureen Curtis Cooper, the Region 15 Coordinator, has attended all meetings thus far, and has worked to guide the formation of this group.

others who might not have joined or who might be encouraged to rejoin their chapters.

Thus far, the group has met three times and further meetings are planned for the next academic year. The group is open to input or suggestions from members with ideas that will help to shape the consortium in the future. The Alpha Chi representatives may be reached by e-mail for any suggestions: Joyce Pulcini at [pulcinjo@bc.edu](mailto:pulcinjo@bc.edu) and Mary Margaret Seagraves at [segrean@worldnet.att.net](mailto:segrean@worldnet.att.net).

The short-term goal is to form a stable, well thought out representative consortium over the first year. As part of consortium development, participating chapters will contribute \$500 for seed money by July 1, 2002. A sliding scale will be established for chapters with limited resources. The group has a finance and a program committee who will work on an event most probably in Spring or Fall 2003. The Consortium will not greatly duplicate chapter functions, but instead will engage in activities that can best be done by a large nursing group. These activities might include a large, high-visibility program or activities that encourage membership into Sigma Theta Tau by



Sigma Theta Tau, Alpha Chi Chapter Proudly announces competition for the **Biannual Mentor Award**

**Purpose:** To recognize member/s whose leadership has positively influenced the Alpha Chi chapter development

**Eligibility:** Any individual who is a member of the Alpha Chi Chapter

**Deadline:** April 10, 2002

**Criteria:** The recipient shall be a member whose leadership has positively influenced chapter development in the following manner:

1. Helping in developing chapter leaders
2. Creating new directions for chapter programming
3. Promoting a positive chapter image

**Submission of Nominations:**

1. A colleague from the chapter shall nominate a member in a letter form. The letter should outline in detail how the person has met the above criteria
2. A curriculum vitae should also be submitted

**Submit the above to:**

Christina Stille  
 Chair, Alpha Chi Scholarship and Awards Committee  
 510 Washington Street  
 Holliston, MA 01746

mentor award

Sigma Theta Tau, Alpha Chi Chapter Proudly announces 1st Annual Award for **Excellence in the Art of Nursing**

**Purpose:** To recognize member/s who have demonstrated clinical expertise and talent in the area of clinical nursing practice

**Eligibility:** Any member of the Alpha Chi Chapter

**Deadline:** April 10, 2002

**Criteria:** The recipient shall be a member who advances the scope and practice of nursing though the following attributes:

1. Possesses attributes of a clinical scholar
2. Develops creative approaches to nursing practice that contribute to quality health care
3. Enhances the image of nursing though nursing practice
4. Participates in community affairs, legislation, or organizations that affect nursing practice
5. Serves as mentor/preceptor in a way that inspires peer's practice of nursing

**Submission of Nominations:**

1. Submit a 500-word letter describing the nominee that includes the Criteria listed above

**Submit the above to:**

Christina Stille  
 Chair, Alpha Chi Scholarship and Awards Committee  
 510 Washington Street  
 Holliston, MA 01746

art of nursing award

**Bambi Alexander-Banys** authored "Pharmaceutical companies' advertising practices: Call to arms" in the Journal of Pediatric Health Care 16 (March-April 2002), and received the Patricia Ibert Award for leadership at the May graduate commencement banquet.

**Maureen Banks** has taken a position as nursing director of the Deaconess Transitional Care Unit in Boston.

Alpha Chi members presented in May at the 24th International Association for Human Caring Conference: **Anne-Marie Barron** on "Life meanings and the experience of cancer;" doctoral student **Susan Ruka** of Merriman House in North Conway on "Realizing a caring environment for people with dementia living in a nursing home: A model of care;" **Jane Flanagan** on "Nurse and patient perceptions of the pre-admission nursing practice model;" **Rosanna DeMarco** and **June Horowitz** on "Intra-professional alliances: A model of intraprofessional caring and commitment;" **Patricia Maher** and colleagues at Cambridge HealthCare for the Homeless on "Providing care at home to homeless persons;" and **Diane Carroll** and **Kristin Sethares** on a symposium panel on "Caring for cardiac elders."

The Boston College Chronicle featured the accomplishments of new School of Nursing faculty in the following editions: **Rose Beeson** in May 10, 2002, **Rosanna DeMarco** in January 2002, **Joyce Pulcini** in May 24, 2002, and **Catherine Read** in April 25, 2002.

**Diane Berry** received the Ph.D. Dissertation Award and was the Ph.D. nursing speaker at the college's Commencement Ceremony, May 2002. **Jane M. Flanagan** received the Dorothy A. Jones Becoming Award and **Rachael Rowley McQuillan** the Gershon Salter Long-Term Care Award at the graduate nursing students' commencement banquet, May 2002. Among other graduate students who received recognition were the following Alpha Chi members: for leadership, **Julia Graham**, **Lisa Kelley** and **Bambi Alexander-Banys**; for volunteer service, **Bambi**, **Julia**, **Lisa**, as well as **Debra Lowry**, **Julie Nielsen**, **Whitney Wieggl Pritham**, **Rachel Senseman**, and **Elizabeth Rosevear**

**Steele**. **Julia** also accepted the MS degree for her class at the University commencement services while **Michael Casey** gave the masters in nursing address. The Connell School of Nursing also named **Joanne O'Sullivan**, **Nancy Hanrahan** and **Janice Goodman** 2002 Graduate Students of the Year.

**Ernestine Bolduc**, a retired Army Nurse Corps Colonel, co-chaired the annual Army Nurse Corps Association Convention held in Boston May 23-27 at the Park Plaza Hotel.

# member NEWS

**Carol Bova**, of Yale University School of Nursing, received the Patrick and Catherine Weldon Donaghue Medical Research Foundation grant for development of a research instrument measuring patients' trust in healthcare providers.

**Barbara Brush** was the co-author of a Summer 2001 article in Scholarly Inquiry of Nursing Practice entitled "Health and service utilization patterns among homeless men in transition: Exploring the need for on-site shelter-based care."

**Ann Burgess**, **Jean Weyman** and **Mary Duffy** received a \$100,000 National Institute of Justice grant for "Identifying forensic markers in elder sexual abuse." They held a related conference in March 2002 at the Newton Sheraton for experts in the field of elder abuse. Ann presented "Elder mistreatment and forensic issues," at the School of Nursing's A. Daniel Rubenstein Lectureship on April 9. With two doctoral students, she presented a daylong seminar on "Terrorism and trauma" at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center March 21, sponsored by Nursing Spectrum. She co-wrote "Sexual violence and trauma: Policy implications" in Nursing and Health Policy Review 1:1 (2002) and was named to Cardinal Law's Commission for the Protection of Children and, in that capacity, co-authored, "Unraveling the old myths that foster sexual violence" in

The Boston Globe June 17.

**Pamela Burke** co-authored "Adolescent nurse fellows: Inspiring leaders in action" in Clinical Excellence for Nurse Practitioners 5: 6 (2002), and also was a faculty for the AM:PREP CME course presented by the American Academy of Pediatrics in Chicago.

**Virginia Capasso**, clinical nurse specialist and co-director of MGH's Wound Care Center, was a finalist in Nursing Spectrum's New England Nurse of the Year search. She published "Unit-based specialty vascular transitional homecare program" in the Online Journal of Knowledge Synthesis for Nursing (document 3c, 2002).

**Susan Chase** is taking the position of Academic Dean for the School of Nursing at Emory University in August 2002. She published "Response to the concept of nursing presence: State of the science," in Scholarly Inquiry of Nursing Practice 15: 4 (2001).

**Mary Curtin**, president of the senior class, was elected by her classmates to receive the Reverend Edward J. Gorman Leadership Award at the School of Nursing's 2002 Convocation. She, **Jennifer Derrah**, Vice President, and **Jennifer Spencer**, Secretary, had special roles in the Convocation and received certificates of recognition for leadership. **Jennifer**, **Laura Geselbracht**, **Keri Sullivan** and **Kristen Ulrich** received certificates of recognition for volunteer service. **Katrina Wain** received the Marie S. Andrews Clinical Performance Award, while **Sondra Magnus** won the Alumnae Award for highest academic average and received the degree for her class at Commencement.

**Rosanna DeMarco** was recognized for her volunteer service at the Boston Living Center. She published "Two theories of a sharper lens: The staff nurse voice in the workplace" in the Journal of Advanced Nursing 39: 6 (2002) and co-authored "Mothers who silence themselves: A concept with clinical implications for women living with HIV/AIDS and their children" in the Journal of Pediatric Nursing 17: 2 (April 2002) and "Nursing students' experience with and strategic approaches to case-based instruction: A replication and comparison study between two disciplines" in Journal of Nursing Education 41: 4 (April 2002). **Rosanna** and **Carol Picard** presented "Family secrets: An exploration of phenomena and implications for family nursing" at the March Eastern Nursing Research Society in

Pennsylvania.

The Journal of the National Black Nurses Association has appointed **Mary E. Duffy** to their editorial board. She published "Methodological issues in web-based research," Journal of Nursing Scholarship 34 (First quarter 2002).

Home Healthcare Nurse September 2001 published an article by **Sara Fry** entitled "Evolution of a home health ethics committee."

Boston College Magazine's Spring 2002 cover story was "Critical condition: The new nursing shortage." **Lisa Gallagher** (whose picture as a labor and delivery nurse at Beth Israel graced the cover) and **Carolyn Hayes**, a nurse researcher at Brigham and Women's Hospital, were among Boston College alumnae featured. **Barbara Munro** was quoted on the current nursing shortage.

The American Nurses Foundation Board of Trustees awarded **Janice Goodman** a research grant for "A narrative study of unaccompanied adolescent refugees from Sudan." She was named an ANF scholar, and also received an Eastern Nursing Research award for her paper, "Parental postpartum depression and the family."

**Tanya Gurian** is now the coordinator of group psychotherapy at The Trauma Center in Allston, MA.

**Susan Hamilton-Bruno** of Children's Hospital was featured in "Clinical nurse specialists: Leaders, educators and mentors" in Nursing Spectrum, June 17, 2002.

**Carol Hartman** and **Ann Burgess** published "Batterers' stalking patterns" in the September 2001 Journal of Family Violence.

**Rose Harvey** is the Education and Information Transfer Core Leader for the Boston University Alzheimer's Disease Center. She is the Project Director for the VA funded grant "Safety enhancement to prevent home injury in veterans with Alzheimer's Disease."

**Joellen Hawkins** and **Jennifer Lucas** were among co-authors of "Community health centers in the settlement house tradition: Hope for today's urban ills," in Issues in Interdisciplinary Care. Joellen wrote "A salute to preceptors:

Redux" in Clinical Excellence for Nurse Practitioners 5: 5.

**Loretta Higgins** was interviewed by the Boston Herald for an article on the high demand for nurses.

A \$22,400 National Institutes of Health grant was awarded to **June Horowitz** and **Janice Goodman** for "Parental postpartum depression and the family system." June had two articles in The Guide to Jewish Interfaith Family Life, "Facing the December dilemma: Guidelines for interfaith couples" and "Death and mourning in interfaith families."

**Kathy Horvath** is Associate Director of Education and Program Evaluation at the Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center, ENR Memorial Veterans Hospital, Bedford and Principal Investigator of the VA funded grant, "Safety enhancement to prevent home injury in veterans with Alzheimer's Disease."

**Maryfran Hughes**, nurse manager of the emergency department of Massachusetts General Hospital and consulting editor of the Journal of Emergency Nursing, was named Nursing Spectrum's "New England Nurse of the Year."



**Ann Hurley** is the executive director of the Center for Excellence in Nursing Practice in Boston, but remains affiliated with the Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center, ENR Memorial Veterans Hospital, Bedford and serves as a consultant for the Boston University Alzheimer's Disease Center.

The National Institutes of Health awarded **Dorothy Jones** \$153,000 for "Efficacy of nurse coaching to ambulatory surgery patients." Co-investigators are **Mary Duffy**, **Nancy Fairchild**, **Carol Lynn Mandle**, **Rita**

**Olivieri**, **Jean O'Neil** and **Jane Flanagan**. Dotty was elected president-elect 2002-2004 and president 2004-2006 of the Eastern Nursing Research Society.

**Cheryl Kane** and Boston Health Care for the Homeless colleagues presented "Innovative approaches to street outreach" at the July 2002 National Health Care for the Homeless Conference in Chicago, work featured in **Joellen Hawkins'** "Caring for persons who are homeless: A privilege for nurses," Clinical Excellence for Nurse Practitioners 5: 6 (2002).

The 19th Annual Gravidas at Risk Perinatal Conference in Hickman NC included **Margaret Kearney** in "Substance abuse in pregnancy: Risks and professional responses" and "Domestic violence impact on mothers and newborns." She co-authored "Influences on older women's adherence to a low-fat diet in the women's health literature," Psychosomatic Medicine 64 (2002).

The Newton TAB featured **Ronna Krozy** in an article about her efforts to provide essential medical equipment to poverty-stricken South American communities.

The New Hampshire Nurses Association recently awarded **Cynthia Loring** the title of "Nurse of the Year."

McLean Hospital honored **Arlene Lynch** for fifteen years of service at its recent banquet.

**Barbara Madden** was the first sexual assault nurse examiner in Massachusetts to receive the recently instituted national certification as a S.A.N.E.-A (Adult and Adolescent), awarded by the International Association of Forensic Nurses.

**Ellen Mahoney** received over \$75,000 from the National Institutes of Health and from Hearthstone Alzheimer Care for her study "Dynamic assessment for nursing homes."

The Boston Globe February 8, 2002 feature on the increasing clout of nurses during a time of shortage described and depicted **Kate Matulewicz's** practice at New England Medical Center. **Barbara Munro** was also quoted.



**Deborah McCarter-Spaulling** and **Margaret Kearney** co-authored "Parenting self-efficacy and perception of insufficient breast milk" and "Varicella infection in pregnancy" in the Journal of Obstetric, Gynecologic and Neonatal Nursing.

**Kathleen McLoughlin**, formerly on the faculty of St. Elizabeth's Hospital School of Nursing, is now employed as a staff educator at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center.

**Judith Mitiguy** has been promoted from executive director of the New England Division to associate corporate editorial director for Nursing Spectrum.

**Betty Morgan**, a doctoral student working at Lemuel Shattuck, was on a team that won a "Rays of Hope" award for their work caring for those living with HIV/AIDS. Betty also received the

**Carol Picard** co-authored "Praxis as a mirroring process: Teaching psychiatric nursing grounded in health as expanding consciousness" in Nursing Science Quarterly (Spring 2002).

**Joyce Pulcini** was appointed to the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Standards Committee. She presented "NPACE nurse practitioner practice characteristics, salary and benefit survey: Implications for nurse educators" at the International Nurse Practitioner Network Annual Conference in Dublin, Ireland and co-authored research on the personal and professional characteristics of award-winning school nurses which was published in the Journal of School Nursing.

**Catherine Read** presented "Reproductive decisions of parents of children with metabolic disorders" at the Eastern Nursing Research Society conference,

The National Institute of Nursing Research awarded **Judith Vessey** and **Joyce David** over \$18,000 for "Development of the CATS: Child Adolescent Teasing Scale." Judith authored "Ten ways to improve your practice through research" and "Grantsmanship and game shows" in the NASN Newsletter, and "An evaluation of commercial school health software for use in multisite research studies," Journal of School Nursing 18: 5 (2002).

**Barbara Wallace** authored an article in Nursing Spectrum May 20, 200, entitled "Angel on my shoulder."

**Nancy Weinberg**, of the Educational Resources Department at Newton-Wellesley Hospital, was honored as one of the "2001 Partners in Excellence Awards" for her accomplishments in leadership, team work and innovation.

## Visit us on the World Wide Web!

<http://www.bc.edu/sigma>

You can find information of particular value to members:

- Annual Reports
- Committee Lists and Chairpersons
- Newsletters
- Calendar of Events
- Application Forms for Scholarships and Awards ... and more!

American Society of Pain Management Eastern Massachusetts Chapter Research Grant Award.

**Barbara Munro** was featured in a February 11, 2002 Nursing Spectrum article "The real world knocks on the classroom door." She discussed the school's prompt response to last September's events by hosting a bioterrorism seminar for faculty and clinical colleagues.

**Anne Norris** co-authored "Who knows more about condoms? A comparison between nursing students, education students and at-risk adolescents," MCN, March/April 2002, which was also a topic of presentation at the International Conference on Traditions, Evidence and Innovations in Nursing in Phuket, Thailand. She wrote "What makes advanced practice special?" in Clinical Nurse Specialist.

**Jean O'Neil** was elected to the Bylaws Committee and reappointed to the Diagnostic Review Committee of the North American Nursing Diagnosis Association International.

and "Beyond genome science: The impact of genetic information on individuals, families and society" at the Kathleen Fox Memorial Lecture of Eta Omega chapter, STTI.

**Sister Callista Roy, Susan Chase, and Carol Lynn Mandle** co-authored an article in The Diabetes Educator, "The content, integrity and efficacy of a nursing coaching intervention in Type 2 Diabetes." Callista authored "Reflections on nursing: A time of challenge and choice," Australian Journal of Advanced Nursing, and with **Dorothy Jones** wrote "Knowledge Impact Conference 2001: Action plans linking nursing knowledge to practice outcomes," Research and Theory for Nursing Practice 16:1 (2002).

**Judith Shindul-Rothschild** spoke on the shortage of registered nurses in the Boston Business Journal, May 2002.

**Rachel Spector** published "Heritage assessment" in Cultura de los Cuidados, Revista De Enfermeria y Humanidades. She was also nominated for the National Advisory Council and Concensus Building Group of the American Institute of Research.

**Jean Weyman** authored, "Careers in clinical research," Nursing Spectrum May 2, 2002.

The European Cancer Conference, held recently in Lisbon, Portugal, was the site of **Robin Wood's** presentation on "Lump detection in older women: Performing breast self-examination."



You don't see your news here? You know something important or good that happened to a fellow Chapter member? We want to celebrate all members' accomplishments. Send news to Louisa Dichard, Public Relations Committee, at [Louisdishard@aol.com](mailto:Louisdishard@aol.com) or to Barbara Madden, Newsletter Editor, at [bmadden@attbi.com](mailto:bmadden@attbi.com). We will be happy to spread the good cheer.



Date	Event	Time	Place
Wed. Sept 18, 2002	Executive Board meeting Committee Orientation	5:30-7:00 PM 7:00-8:30 PM	Cushing 413 Cushing 411-412
Wed. October 2, 2002	Founder's Night Program for Potential Members	6:00-7:30 PM	Cushing 207
Wed. October 23, 2002	Rev. Edward Gorman Lecture on Humanistic Nursing Co-Sponsored with Pi Epsilon @ Boston College Business meeting Supper and Networking Speaker: Marie LeBlanc RN	5:30-6:15 PM 6:15-7:00 PM 7:00-8:00 PM	Shea Room, Conte Forum
Wed. Jan. 22, 2003	Winter Business Meeting Clinical Innovations Dinner Clinical Innovations Program Program TBA	5:45-6:45 PM 6:30-7:30 PM 7:30-8:30 PM	Heights Room
Wed., Jan 29, 2003	Snow Date. Listen to WBZ or WHDH Radio in the afternoon for announcement of cancellation or call BCSON @ 617-552-4250		
Sun April 13, 2003	Induction Ceremony/Brunch Speaker: TBA	11:00 AM-2:00PM	Heights Room
Wed. May 7, 2003	Annual Meeting Networking/Poster Session Business Meeting Research Presentation	5:30-6:30 PM 6:30-7:30 PM 7:30-9:00 PM	Shea Room, Conte Forum

### Executive Board Meetings:

Wed. Sept 18, 2002	5:30-7:00 Cushing 413
Committee Orientation	7:00-8:30 Cushing 411
Wed. Oct. 16 2002	5:30-7:00 Cushing 413
Wed. Nov. 13, 2002	5:30-7:00 Cushing 413
Wed. Jan 15, 2003	5:30-7:00 Cushing 413
Wed. Feb. 12, 2003	5:30-7:00 Cushing 413
Wed. Mar 12, 2003	5:30-7:00 Cushing 413
Wed. Apr. 16, 2003	5:30-7:00 Cushing 413
Wed. June 4, 2003	5:30-7:00 Cushing 413
Transition Board and Chairs	

Newsletter Deadlines:	Nov. 1, 2002 (January Newsletter)
	May 16, 2003 (August Newsletter)
Membership Applications:	Dec. 7, 2002
Research Applications:	Feb. 22, 2003
Clinical Awards, Essays and Mentor:	April 10, 2003

## Newsletter Staff

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Joyce Pulcini

# BCSON Information Sessions

BS Only

**November 24, 2002**

This program will take place in Cushing Hall from noon - 2 pm. Call 617-552-4250 for more information.

Master's Entry Only

**October 1, 2002**

All graduate Programs

**September 17, 2002**

**December 5, 2002**

**February 4, 2002**

## *Exploring Higher Education Seminars*

Master's education

**April 10, 2003**

Doctoral Education

**November 5, 2002**

**April 3, 2003**

All programs for the Graduate School of Nursing will take place in Cushing Hall from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. To register, call 617-552-4928 or go on-line at [www.bc.edu/nursing](http://www.bc.edu/nursing).

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