

january 28, 2004

dinner and
program

development of

nurse
anesthesia

The eleventh annual Clinical Innovations Program sponsored by Alpha Chi Chapter will be held on January 28, 2004 (snow date February 3, 2004) in the Heights Room, Lower Campus Dining Hall. This program will feature Dr. Courtney Lyder who will present his groundbreaking research on skin and pressure ulcer care in older adults of color.



Dr. Lyder received his doctorate of nursing degree in 1991 in gerontological nursing from Rush University. He is a recognized clinical researcher, educator and practitioner in wound care and minority aging. For the past ten years, his research has focused on prevention of pressure ulcers, the cost-effectiveness of comprehensive wound programs, and the use of advanced technology in measuring wound healing. He is currently a professor of nursing at the University of Virginia.

The dinner and program will be preceded at 5:45 p.m. by the Chapter's Business Meeting. The agenda will include consideration of new inductees. The dinner will be at 6:30 p.m., followed by the program at 7:30. Those wishing to attend who have not yet sent back their reservations may contact Program Committee chair Joyce Pulcini at pulcinjo@bc.edu.

One of the best-kept secrets of Cushing Hall was the development of a new graduate program in nursing. After careful planning within the university, the William F. Connell School opened a fully accredited nurse anesthetist program in collaboration with Anesthesia Associates of Massachusetts in January 2003 with approximately twenty students enrolled. The program is full-time, twenty-seven months long, and prepares the graduate to sit for the national certification examination. What an exciting new opportunity for your career development in nursing!

pioneering in

distance
learning

The William F. Connell School of Nursing will be offering its first Distance Learning Course in January, 2004. Although many professors are using WebCT as an adjunct to their courses, this is the first totally web-based course for Boston College. Rita Olivieri is designing and teaching the on-line course entitled: "Foundations of Teaching and Learning: a Web-Based Course." Rita has been interested in computers and technology for many years and, while on a Spring sabbatical leave supported by a Teaching, Advising and Mentoring Grant, began a 32 week on-line program leading to a Certificate in Distance Education at Thomas Edison State College. The three-credit course offering focuses on introducing teaching and learning constructs and concepts in the context of nursing education, exploring various philosophies of education, the process of developing a mission statement, principles of teaching and learning, the history of nursing education, learning styles, curriculum development and design, and teaching critical thinking. Students will be able to log on from home at their leisure and get assignments, discuss the weekly topics, give feedback, and prepare papers, which can be e-mailed to the professor.

dedication ceremony

On September 12, 2003, an afternoon ceremony officially re-naming the Boston College William F. Connell School was held. The full program included a health care symposium at Robsham Theater, followed by the dedication ceremony on the lawn in front of the nursing school's building. The university's Office of Development made the day run smoothly with efficient mini-bus transportation between events and ample lawn

seating on this bright sunny day. A large number of Alpha Chi members were in attendance, and enjoyed the symposium discussion and the beautiful ceremony. Both Alpha Chi members and alumni shared greetings and food treats at the Cushing Hall reception following the ceremonies. Megan Matiasek, inducted into Alpha Chi in April 2003, and now a senior, spoke for the undergraduate students at the special dinner for family and friends of William F. Connell. Throughout the day, special recognition by name was given to the nurses who cared for Mr. Connell in his last illness. This was an historic event for nursing and for the school. His gift provides it with a sound financial base for continuation and enhancement of its programs, student support and nursing research.

The health care symposium featured a Welcome Address by Barbara Munro, Dean of the school, and remarks from the College's President, William P. Leahy, S.J. The panel presentation was moderated by Malika Marshall, M.D., the WBZ-TV News Health Watch Reporter and a pediatrician at Massachusetts General Hospital, who set the tone for the discussion on "Meeting the Nation's Need for Nurses." The first panel participant was Beverly Malone, PhD, RN, FAAN, General Secretary of the Royal College of (United Kingdom). She spoke mainly from the perspective of her former position as President of the American Nurses Association, giving an historical view on the condition of nurses and nursing today. A major theme in her remarks was the issue of societal respect for nurses and their contributions of health care, and the role of respect in the recruitment and retention of qualified nurses, particularly in a changing care environment. She spoke movingly of the frustration many nurses feel at not being able to provide the care they were taught to give, but do not have the time or the support to provide.

The second presenter was Michael F. Collins, M.D., President and Chief Executive Officer of Caritas Health Care and Secretary for Health Care Services for the Archdiocese of Boston. He focused his portion of the discussion on the need

for more university-educated nurses and the need to improve their utilization to provide quality care for patients at all levels, instead of in clerical and housekeeping responsibilities. Dr. Collins recognized the nursing background of his wife and his experience with nursing leaders in the Caritas Hospitals. He also described some strategies useful in recruiting to fill nursing positions.

Charles D. Baker, President and Chief Executive Officer of Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, was the final speaker. In his remarks he urged nurses, as mainly women, to overcome the "sexual politics" within health care institutions and become more involved in the management aspects of health care, not only in hospitals, but in more diverse areas such as ambulatory care, home care and holistic approaches to caregiving. While noting that he views nurses as having the most "common sense" of those practicing in health care, he urged them to focus on being change agents in a dynamic environment of multiple opportunities. Mr. Baker's strong recommendation was that nurses become educationally prepared for management positions. Many nurses in the audience came to the microphone to respond. One eloquently described her formation in critical thinking as the educational basis for what looks like "common sense."



The middle campus ceremony opened with a trumpet fanfare, and the entire Connell family, including daughter Lisa, a graduate of the School of Nursing, took the stage along with Rev. Leahy, Auxiliary Bishop John Boles, Dean Barbara Munro, Chancellor Donald Monan and U.S. Senator Edward F. Kennedy, who was the main speaker at the Dedication. Senator Kennedy spoke eloquently and personally about his friend Bill, recounting many amusing and poignant passages from his life and career. Margot Connell graciously added to the occasion with remarks on what Boston College and nursing had meant to her late husband, and promised that the family would continue to support its ideals and standards. The remaining dignitaries also spoke glowingly of the contributions Mr. Connell had made over the years to Boston College, where he was a long-time member of the Board of Trustees.

The Connell School of Nursing has photographs of the event and video of the symposium up on its Website at www.bc.edu/nursing for those unable to attend the ceremony. Click on "William F. Connell School of Nursing Dedication," in the upper right hand corner and browse the site for a slide show and media presentation.

PEER ADVISORS



Peer Advisors for Mending Hearts Together II with Diane Carroll, front row, far left, and Elizabeth Hiltunen, the Advanced Practice Nurse for Mending Hearts Together II, front row, far right.

an integral part of a nursing intervention for unpartnered cardiac elders

Diane L. Carroll, RN, PhD

Today, cardiovascular disease continues to be the leading cause of morbidity and mortality in the United States, and it is estimated that forty percent of people over sixty-five years have one or more forms of cardiovascular disease. As nurses are well aware, older age has been associated with less social support, more depression, and in general, poorer health. It is estimated that nine million older Americans live alone and report having no one to turn to for support (American Heart Association, 2002; Administration on Aging, 2003).

Those older Americans who experi-

ence a cardiovascular event face a potentially difficult physical and psychosocial adjustment, a period of uncertain health status, and increased mortality. Social support has been shown to be a powerful and consistent predictor of survival. Intervention studies to alter a person's social support have been successful in facilitating psychological adjustment, aiding recovery, and even extending life for individuals with chronic disease, such as cardiovascular disease (Cohen, Cohen, Gottlieb & Underwood, 2000; Dennis, 2003).

Peer advisor interventions, as an approach to enhancing social support, have been employed to pro-

mote specific health behaviors or to assist others through a difficult adjustment. Support from peer advisors of similar age, gender, and medical condition is an essential component to aid understanding and empathy. The approach with peer advisors capitalizes on the development of influential relationships. The peer advisors' ability to relate to the needs and concerns of the individual allows them to offer support, advice, and encouragement because of a shared experience of recovery or illness. Peer advisors have demonstrated success in a variety of different settings with older age groups (MacLeod & Stewart, 1994; Rose, 1992; Resnick, Orwig, Magaziner, & Wynne, 2002).

In a randomized clinical trial (Mending Hearts Together I) funded by the National Institute of Nursing research and conducted at Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, the use of adjunctive social support with peer advisors has been tested. This concept is currently being utilized in a second randomized clinical trial (Mending Hearts Together II) for its influence on the recovery health outcomes of unpartnered cardiac elders (Rankin, R15-NR425; RO1-NR0525). Both studies have as their co-investigator the author, Diane Carroll. In both studies, appropriate peer advisors were identified with the assistance of cardiac rehabilitation personnel. A criterion for selection was the ability to identify with the cardiac elders that they would be helping. Peer advisors needed to be able to share the social, environmental, ethnic, and language characteristics of the cardiac elder. Sharing of these characteristics facilitated the development of mutual trust, empathetic listening skills, caring, and a respect for other's priorities. In addition, the peer advisor needed to be active or have participated in cardiac rehabilitation, developed heart healthy lifestyles, be over the age of 65 years, and be willing to participate in a training program (Robinson, Rankin, Arnstein, Carroll, Traynor, 1998).

In the first completed study, Mending Heart Together I, peer advisors identified aspects of their role specifically, establishing that "helping" was their primary role and that this was the aspect providing substantial role satisfaction. "Helping" was giving advice, assisting with problem solving, empowering the cardiac elder, and alleviating fear. Peer advisors felt that sharing their recovery experience was the foundation for all of these aspects of the helping role.

Other aspects included mutual sharing and commitment. The common bond of a shared recovery experience was enough to establish rapport with someone that the peer advisor had never met. Sharing of the recovery experience as well as common life experiences often occurred, and this sharing fostered the helping aspect as well as pro-

viding personal benefit to the peer advisor. Peer advisors expressed enthusiasm for their role with its responsibilities by demonstrating commitment and empathy.

Reciprocity was identified as a benefit by the peer advisors. Most peer advisors became involved with the study because of the altruistic nature of the role, because they were grateful for the support they themselves had received, and also wanted to give others something that they found important in their own personal lives. Friendships developed within the primary context of these helping relationships. Another benefit to the peer advisor was an awareness of their own health behaviors and the importance of persistence in pursuing a healthy lifestyle. Peer support involves mutuality, self-disclosure, and shared problem solving that fostered a bidirectional relationship (Stewart, 1993). Therefore, it is not surprising that peer advisors benefited personally in this experience.

The role of peer advisor appears to be valuable as a complementary social support intervention in the current health environment. Different types of social support provide distinct kinds of aid. Through their own personal experience of recovery, peer advisors had a remarkable ability to connect and relate to the unpartnered cardiac elder. Their shared cardiovascular event, plus their common age and gender, contributed to a potent helping relationship of emotional support, assistance with problem solving, alleviation of fears, and listening between the peer advisor and the unpartnered cardiac elder (Whittemore, Rankin, Callahan, Leder, Carroll, 2000). Peer advisors offer a unique component to a nursing intervention to improve the health outcomes of unpartnered cardiac elders.

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The above article continues a planned series a "Knowledge for Practice." Ideas or articles for future editions are welcomed. Please contact the editor at:

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BIENNIAL CONVENTION

37th STTI

in Toronto

Despite what delegate Robin Wood described as "endless rain," a large contingent of Alpha Chi members enjoyed the largest yet Sigma Theta Tau International Biennial Convention in Toronto, November 1-5, 2003. First-time attendees were amazed at the sheer size and splendor of the event, as well as proud and energized by the notable presence of Alpha Chi. The Chapter was well represented not only in number of attendees (twenty-six), but also in number of honors and professional presentations. The Chapter also sponsored the Founders' Awards Dinner on November 3.

First, the election results for the 2003-2005 Board and officers. Alpha Chi member Carol Picard was chosen President-elect of STTI! Throughout the entire Biennium, Carol was a strong and impressive presence in her current role as Vice-President. She was a poised, well-spoken, and gracious Mistress-of-Ceremonies for the Audrey Hepburn Awards Luncheon, and we are indeed fortunate to have her in our Chapter. To quote from her candidacy statement, she believes that "the President-Elect must be an ambassador for the organization and inspire its members, the public, other organizational leaders and policy makers with a sense of purpose and possibility." And her personal goals are "to be a servant leader, working with the Board of Directors to shape policy that will guide the organization, while being sensitive to the needs of members and chapters, . . . sustaining a balance of global and local efforts needed to achieve the mission and vision of the organization." She intend to do this by "1) working to expand the organization's position as a global force for nursing leadership and scholarship and 2) supporting chapter leaders in designing new initiatives to retain new members and 3) helping chapters main-

tain a strong local presence as centers for evidence-based practice, knowledge development and leadership development with local health care institutions and in public arenas."

Our own Maureen Curtis Cooper, current Regional 15 Coordinator, also distinguished herself and Alpha Chi by ably chairing an informative and well-organized Regional Meeting, and by mentoring / preparing regional Chapter Delegates for their role. Maureen was rewarded for her efforts by being re-elected as Regional Coordinator for another term! After the Convention, when asked what were her goals for her new term of office, she responded, "1) make more use of the regional committee members; 2) develop a strategic plan to implement (new President) Dan Pesul's charge of 'create the future through renewal'; 3) bring cohesion to the region through networking at STTI events (Leader Academy, Biennial, Consortiums); 4) investigate adding a mini chapter leader academy to the region's consortium meetings; and 5) have one face-to-face president's meeting." Immediately following the announcement of new officers, delegate Louisa Dichard arranged for two splendid flower bouquets to be presented to Carol and Maureen from Alpha Chi Chapter.

Two of the five "Best of" awards were presented to Alpha Chi members. At the Sunday Tribute Luncheon, June Horowitz received the 2003 "Best of Journal of Nursing Scholarship Award - Clinical Scholarship" for her article "Promoting responsiveness between mothers with depressive symptoms and their infants," (2001, vol. 33). This manuscript was the major outcome publication from her March of Dimes Foundation funded study. Co-authors included Alpha Chi members Barbara Munro, Margaret Bell, Deborah Moser, Shelly Hartz, and Lisa McCordic. June was toasted with champagne, courtesy of Judith Vessey, at the Luncheon's conclusion. The second "Best of Journal of Nursing Scholarship Award

- Health Policy and Systems" was to a group of authors which included Barbara Munro for "Lessons learned from testing the Quality Cost Model of advanced practice nursing (APN) transitional care."

Eight Chapter Newsletter Awards were presented and two of them were awarded to Alpha Chi Chapter's Newsletter at the Wednesday morning Chapter Awards Breakfast. The ongoing series, "Knowledge for Practice," received the Chapter Newsletter Feature Article Excellence award, and the Spring 2002 edition received the Chapter Newsletter Overall Excellence award. Graphic designer Chad Minnich of the Kennedy Resource Center deserves a great deal of the credit for the quality of these submissions as does the newsletter editor, Barbara Madden, and her committee. Delegates Louisa Dichard and Robin Wood each accepted one award on behalf of the Chapter, and describe them as physically beautiful and deserving of display. Robin stated she was totally surprised by the very special nature of the awards, given at a breakfast with cameras flashing and much attention to Alpha Chi because of its multiple successes. Robin's copy of the Fall 2003 Newsletter received much attention at the Awards Breakfast; everyone at her table asked to see it for ideas! These awards will be available for viewing at the next Chapter Business meeting, and the Executive Board will pursue a case for displaying these and past awards somewhere in the School of Nursing.

In a related event, Sandra Bertman, research professor of clinical thanatology and palliative care at Boston College, was selected as an honorary member of Sigma Theta Tau International and was inducted at the Toronto Biennial Convention. Honorary membership is granted to persons who have made great con-



Top: Toronto's STTI Biennial Convention. Bottom: Carol Picard acknowledging her election as President-Elect



Clockwise from Top Right: Robin Wood accepting the Chapter Newsletter Award for Feature Article Excellence. The Best of Journal of Nursing Scholarship Award – Clinical Scholarship is presented to June Horowitz. Maureen Curtis Cooper re-elected as Regional Coordinator. Louisa Dichard accepting the Chapter Newsletter Award for Overall Excellence.

tributions to nursing and health care, but do not meet the requirements of regular membership. Carol Picard sponsored Sandra for this honor.

In addition to the House of Delegates meetings, awards events and plenary session speakers, the Biennial Convention featured approximately eight hundred oral and poster presentations ranging from implementing evidence-based nursing to issues in nursing research to innovations in nursing leadership. Notable among those presenting were the large numbers of Alpha Chi members.

A symposium featured "Development of the CATS: Child-Adolescent Teasing Scale" by Judith Vessey, Joyce David, member of the nominating committee, Mary Duffy, and June Horowitz, among others. At the Scientific Sessions, Joan Riley, past Chapter President, and Diane Lancaster and a co-researcher presented "Testing the Universal Model of Nursing Scholarship." Karen Aroian presented "Health care utilization among Chinese elderly immigrants" on their use of health care and self care practices. "Condom use at last intercourse by young men under conditions of deployment" was presented by Anne Norris. Leadership Sessions included "Clinical leadership and collaborative governance for professional and community organizations," whose presenting group included Dorothy Jones, Joan Agretalis, Lynda Tyer-Viola, and Trish Gibbons.

Clinical Sessions featured Nancy Fairchild, Rita Oliveiri and Jean O'Neil presenting "Collaborative partnership in research" which described diverse nursing roles and partnerships linking practice and scholarship. Dorothy Jones as the principal investigator presented "Efficacy of nurse coaching to aid ambulatory surgery patients," applying principles of team building to the process of enabling clinical nursing staff and nursing educators to collaborate. Diane Haleem, former Chapter secretary, presented her dissertation research, "Factors influencing at-risk drinking in college students" describing the Harm Reduction model. "Advanced Practice Nurses providing mental health services to older adults: A descriptive study using 1999 Medicare claims data" was presented by Nancy Hanrahan, former Chapter secretary, detailing and comparing diagnoses, services, and sociodemographic characteristics of

beneficiaries. "Women maintaining weight loss." as presented by Diane Berry, dealt with understanding the weight loss / maintenance process and where nurses can provide motivation or education.

Maureen Curtis Cooper presented a Chapter Leader Clinic on membership eligibility as well as presiding at two sessions. Carol Picard presided at a Chapter Leader Clinic on governance and bylaws and also at the Audrey Hepburn Awards Luncheon. Posters were presented on "The Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Nursing Fellowship: Introducing cancer care to the next generation of nurses," by Joan Agretalis, past Chapter President, Joan Gallagher, Jacqueline Somerville and Amanda Coakley. Others were by Anne Norris and Karen Aroian for "Reliability assessment with skewed data: To transform or not to transform," and by Deborah Navedo on the "Relationship of EBP, student perception of 'evidence' and student judgment development."

Other Chapter members in attendance at the Biennial Convention were Kathleen Grinkle, Karen Lourence, Mary Brunell, Judith Mitiguy, Rachel Schiffman, and Susan LaGuipa. (Editor's note: if I inadvertently left anyone out of this article, please let me know and it will be acknowledged in the 'Member News' section next edition.)

The House of Delegates, including Alpha Chi Chapter's representatives Robin Wood and Louisa Dichard, participated in the elections as well as voting on new International Bylaws amendments. Three major changes will be implemented. First, effective January 1, 2004, the International portion of membership dues will increase by \$10 to \$55 (note: any change in the Chapter portion of the dues would be recommended by Alpha Chi's Executive Board and voted on by Chapter membership). The Board of Directors announced this change after the House of Delegates granted them fiscal authority to make incremental dues adjustments to ensure the financial future of the honor society.

The second major change was to the governance structure. Required International Standing Committees will be limited to three, and required Chapter Standing Committees to two (Governance, which encompasses Bylaws and Eligibility, and Leadership Succession). Task forces will carry out all the rest of the activities. Third, membership eligibility in global chapters will be amended to account for the differences in international educational practices and titles, although

the guidelines for high quality of applicants will not be changed.

Another innovation is STTI's sponsorship of "Nursing Knowledge International" and its new publication, *Worldviews on Evidence-Based Nursing*. Starting March, 2004, this quarterly, peer-reviewed, evidence-based nursing journal and information resource will feature knowledge synthesis articles with best practice applications and recommendations for nursing administration, education and health policy. It will provide a forum for readers to engage in an ongoing dialogue on critical questions in evidence-based nursing, and review the latest related publications, resources, and conference announcements with links to other resources and organizations. Further information about subscribing may be found at <http://www.nursingsociety.org/worldviews/index.html>

Convention attendees also heard the newly-installed president, Dan Pesut, PhD, APRN, BC, FAAN, unveil his "Create the Future through Renewal" call to action for the STTI 38th biennium. He focused on seven goals: development of members across their career span; building strong chapters with collaborative leadership; promotion of global linkages at both organizational and member levels; preparation of nurse leaders for the increasingly diverse and complex health care environment; advancement of nursing's scientific base through a new research advisory council; stimulation of the scholarship of reflective practice; and ensuring the organization's future through securing additional resources. A complete resource guide and supporting documents for the Renewal initiative are available on the Honor Society's web site <http://www.nursingsociety.org/about/Dan%20Pesut/RenewalResourceGuide.htm>

For those members envious of the opportunities afforded the attendees at the 37th Biennial Convention, it's not too early to start planning to attend the 38th Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, November 12-16, 2005. More information will be available from STTI in the coming year.



recruiting

prospective
members

Contributed by Rosanna DeMarco

On October 8, 2003, Joellen Hawkins (chair of the Archives Committee), Rita Olivieri and Rosanna DeMarco (Alpha Chi Chapter Counselors) invited interested applicants to come and hear about the history of Sigma Theta Tau International. This is an annual event that helps prospective candidates for Chapter membership to get to know how or why they should apply. Joellen presented the history of how, in 1922, a small group of nursing students from Indiana University brought to fruition a now international society of nurse scholars and clinicians that is well known for its philanthropy, nursing scholarship, and networking. Rita and Rosanna explained the process of applying and made applications available for undergraduate, graduate, and nurse leader candidates. In attendance were not only students of the Connell School of Nursing, but also registered nurses actively working as clinicians in the community and not necessarily matriculated in study but who were interested in becoming members of the Chapter. Lastly, each of those in attendance was encouraged to think about who else may be interested in applying to the Chapter as a nurse leader, i.e., a mentor or colleague who has made contributions to the science and practice of nursing but was not yet a member of Sigma Theta Tau International. Refreshments were served and the spirit of networking continued during and after the meeting. A number of applications for membership were forthcoming from the attendees.

2004 GRANT APPLICATIONS

2004 grant for

clinical research

Purpose: Alpha Chi Clinical Research Fund is seeking to continue to fund nursing research. The chapter sends aside \$5000 to support one of more projects that contribute to the advancement of clinical nursing. **Applications are available at:** www.bc.edu/sigma/financial_support.html, or call Diane Carroll (617) 724-4934. **Deadline:** February 23, 2004. **Awards are presented:** May 5, 2004.

2004 AWARD NOMINATIONS

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, 2004. **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.

mary pekarski memorial award

for outstanding essay

Eligibility: Undergraduate and graduate student members of Alpha Chi Chapter. **Deadline:** April 10, 2004. **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.

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, 2004. **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.

1st annual award

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, 2004. **Criteria:** The recipient shall be a member who advances the scope and practice of nursing through 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 through 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.

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

Submit all of the
above nominations to:

KRISTIN GOEDKOOP
AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR
63 MOUNT VERNON ST #9
BOSTON, MA 02108

SPRING RESEARCH PROGRAM

ruth

McCorkle

PhD, RN, FAAN

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2004
Shea Room, Conte Forum
Boston College, Chestnut Hill,
MA 02467
5:30-9:00pm

call for

abstracts

Abstract submissions are invited for poster presentation at the Alpha Chi Chapter Annual Spring Research Program scheduled for Wednesday, May 9, 2001.

Abstracts are invited for the following categories:

- ◆ Completed Research
- ◆ Research in Progress
- ◆ Proposal in Development
- ◆ Scholarly Literature Review

Abstracts are limited to a maximum of 500 words. Research abstracts should include the following: study purpose; methods; results; and conclusions. Submit 3 copies of the abstract (two copies without identifying information) and a cover sheet that includes: the title of the research; name and degrees of author(s); and address and telephone number(s) of corresponding author.

Nonmembers are invited to submit abstracts.

Materials presented elsewhere are welcome.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
POSTMARKED BY April 2, 2004

Send abstracts to:
Center for Nursing Research, Attention, Mary Kelly
Boston College School of Nursing, Cushing Hall
Chestnut Hall, MA 02467

Notification of acceptance will be mailed to corresponding authors by April 20, 2004.

OFFICERS

call for

nominations

Alpha Chi members are urged to consider whether they themselves or one of their colleagues would be willing to and effective in serving the Chapter in one of the following capacities:

- ◆ **Chapter Secretary**
This officer is responsible for taking minutes at the Executive Board and the Chapter Business Meetings and conducting the correspondence of the Chapter.
- ◆ **Junior Counselor (must be a faculty member)**
This officer is responsible for recruitment and determination of the eligibility of candidates for Chapter membership, and for co-planning the Induction Ceremony and Program.
- ◆ **Nominations Committee Member**
This Committee is responsible for soliciting members to run for office, preparing the ballot and conducting the election.

All three positions are a two-year commitment.

The Nominations Committee is currently putting together the ballot for distribution in early Spring, and hopes to have a contested ballot for all three open positions. If you have an interest or know someone who would be a good addition to the Executive Board, please contact the chair of the Nominations Committee, Jean O'Neil at oneil@bc.edu.





member NEWS

Sandra Bertman, Research Professor of Palliative Care at B.C.'s Graduate School of Social Work, and newly inducted honorary member of STTI, will be lecturing on "Facing death: The healing power of hope, humor and grief" on February 18th in Casson Hall. A reception and light refreshments will follow the program.

Barbara Brush co-published "Spiritual care process and content: Lessons learned from the ECHO Project" in *Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners*.

Ann Burgess, who serves as an advisor to the Chlorine Chemistry Council, co-authored "The disinfecting power of an old standby: Chlorine bleach" in *Nursing Spectrum: Med-Surg Specialty Edition*, 2003.

Joyce Clifford, as executive director of the Institute for Nursing Healthcare Leadership, was a speaker at its recent conference in Boston.

Rosanna DeMarco and **Jane Aroian** published their research, "Perceptions of senior baccalaureate nursing students and nurse leaders: A look at elements of success in the workplace" in *The nursing shortage: Strategies for recruitment and retention in clinical practice and education*, which was also reprinted in *Nursing Leadership Forum* (8). Rosanna also co-authored "Inter-professional collaborative alliances" in *Allied health education: Gateway to the millennium* as well as *Familien-und umweltbezogene Pflege*, and wrote "Choosing clinical trials: Trying to find the balance" in *Side by side: A publication of the adult and pediatric Patient Family Advisory Councils at Dana Farber Cancer Institute* while also contributing to their video production "Clinical trials: Helping cancer patients make an informed decision."

Rosanna DeMarco and **Anne Norris** presented "Creating an HIV prevention film for inner city teens: The idea and experience of 4 African American women living with HIV" at the Sixteenth Annual Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (ANAC) Conference and "Risk factors and prevention of HIV and other STDs" to the Women of Color AIDS Council, Teen Drop-In Center, Dorchester. Rosanna and **Ann Burgess** spoke on "Silence is not always golden: Promoting open communication in the church and society" for the series *The Church in the 21st Century*, at Boston College. Rosanna also published "Interprofessional collaborative alliances" in *Allied Health: Practice Issues and Trends in the New Millennium*, by Lecca, Valentine, & Lyons (Eds.) Haworth: New York, NY.

Meg Doherty, who spoke at the Chapter's Clinical Innovations in 2002 on using computers for diabetes management, was featured in "Visiting Nurses take to the airwaves" in *Advance for Nurses'* November

10th edition. The Norwell VNA is hosting a half-hour health program on local radio featuring nurse experts. **Jeanne Driscoll** presented "Women's moods," the connectedness between mood, physical and mental wellbeing, at the Annual Women and Newborn Health Conference held in Norwood recently.

Wraye Dugundi's career as a geriatric nurse practitioner and her care for her pet cats using only organic food products was featured in the Member's Column of the *Massachusetts Report on Nursing (MARN)* in December.

Karen Giuliano, a clinical specialist with Philips Medical System, was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing. Her work was featured in "Handle with care," in the October 27th *Advance For Nurses*.

Pamela Grace gave three presentations in universities in Denmark while on her Fulbright Fellowship: "Clinical and ethical

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decision-making: Are they inseparable or distinct processes?" at Copenhagen University and "The moral implications inherent in using nursing's philosophical and theoretical works as guide to practice and research" and "The scope and limitations of a nurse's ethical responsibilities" at Aarhus University. Her work while on Fulbright Fellowship was featured in the Fall *William F. Connell School of Nursing Newsletter*. She also co-authored with **Sara Fry** "Ethics and human rights issues experienced by the psychiatric-mental health and substance abuse nurse" in the *Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association* 9(1).

Elizabeth Grady doesn't have enough on her plate, so she is chairing a 45th reunion event for the Boston College Class of '59, which will include a dinner dance for alumni and guests.

Susan Hamilton-Bruno was featured for her work in developing nursing staff at Children's Hospital in "Advanced practice nurses: Real time interventions" in the

October 20th edition of *Nursing Spectrum*.

Joellen Hawkins and **Lois Haggerty** are the editors of *Diversity in health care research: Strategies for multisite, multidisciplinary, and multicultural projects* (2003). A number of Alpha Chi members were represented in chapters of this book: Joellen and **Loretta Higgins** were among co-authors for "Facilitating passage through the institutional maze;" **Ursula Kelly** wrote "Utilizing research assistants;" **Carole Pearce** authored "Managing the multisite team;" **Mary Duffy** wrote "Obtaining funding;" and **Joyce Dwyer** authored "Special consideration for multicenter research."

Joellen Hawkins has been named consultant to the Obstetrics and Gynecology Devices Panel for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. She also received a \$13,000 grant from the National Institute of Nursing Research for "Hispanic battered women's experience of health care."

Loretta Higgins co-authored "Gender, coeducation and the transformation of Catholic identity in American Catholic higher education" in *The Catholic Historical Review* 89 (3).

June Horowitz received a \$26,000 grant from the National Institute of Nursing Research for "Parental postpartum depression and the family system." Also, along with **Judith Vessey** and other co-authors, she published "Conducting school-based focus groups: Lessons learned from the CATS Project" in *Journal of Pediatric Nursing*, 18(5).

Maryfran Hughes recently introduced a new skills cluster for the emergency department at Massachusetts General Hospital where she is nurse manager. Her project, "Forensic skills day, was featured in an article in the December 1 *Nursing Spectrum*.

Dorothy Jones presented a poster "Variance in common patient problems and role of CNS in problem solving, teaching and resource" at Massachusetts General Hospital's Research Day as well as "Philosophical principles and the advancement of nursing knowledge development in education and practice" at the Nursing Congress at the University of Navarre, Pamplona, Spain. She co-authored "Unifying nursing languages: Harmonization of NANDA, NIC, and NOC" published by the American Nurses Association as well as "The value of collaborative governance / staff empowerment in the *Journal of Nursing Administration* 33 (2) and "Evaluation of the advanced practice nurse: Cost, efficiency, accomplishments, trends and future development" in *Advanced practice nursing - Essentials for role development*, Joel (Ed), F. A. Davis.

After two years as a staff nurse at Children's Medical Center of Dallas, **Kathleen Kearney**

has returned to Boston to attend Suffolk University Law School, concentrating on health and biomedical law. She was also featured in an article in the 3rd quarter of *Excellence* (2003) regarding her legal internship at Boston Medical Center's Family Advocacy Program.

Margaret Kearney now serves as a member of the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) Initial Review Group as advisor in the areas of nursing research and research training. She also wrote "Thinking upstream" to confront prematurity" in *JOGNN*, 32(5). Along with Lois Haggerty, Barbara Munro, and Joellen Hawkins, she published "Birth outcomes and maternal morbidity in abused women with public versus private health insurance" in *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*, 35(4). With Joanne O'Sullivan, she published "Identity shifts as turning points in health behavior change" in the *Western Journal of Nursing Research* 25 (2).

Ann Marie LaRocca has taken a position as director for the complex medical program at the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital Network in Boston.

Ellen Mahoney and Patricia Tabloski were elected as Fellows of the Gerontological Society of America. Ellen also received a research grant of \$329,000 from the National Institute of Nursing Research for her study "Reminiscence during bathing persons with AD at home."

Jessica May has taken a position as a nurse in a Batavia, NY, hospital.

Ditsapelo McFarland published "Cervical cancer and Pap smear screening in Botswana: Knowledge and perceptions" in *International Nursing Review Journal*, 50.

Sandra Mott presented a poster "Parenting the child living with hypoplastic left heart syndrome" at the Society of Pediatric Nurses Conference.

Barbara Munro published "Caring for Hispanic populations: The state of the science" in *Journal of Transcultural Nursing*. She has also been elected to the Board of Directors of Nurses Educational Funds Inc., a not-for-profit organization that distributes graduate student scholarship assistance for baccalaureate-prepared registered nurses.

Margaret Murphy co-authored "Learning lung sounds: An interactive multimedia course" which was recommended in a review in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. She presented "A multimedia instructional CD-ROM for teaching lung auscultation" at the 28th Annual Conference of The International Lung Sounds Association in Cancun, Mexico in September.

Anne Norris and Karen Aroian co-published "Gender differences in psychological distress among immigrants from the former Soviet Union" in *Sex Roles*.

Carole Pearce, Joellen Hawkins and Margaret Kearney together with the Pregnancy Support Project Team of Joyce Dwyer, Lois Haggerty, Loretta Higgins, Barbara Munro and Ursula Kelly authored "Translation of domestic violence instruments for use in research" in *Violence against Women*.

Joyce Pulcini recently presented "A look at the personal and professional characteristics of exemplary school nurses" and "Behavioral issues in school health" at the Annual School Nurse Conference at St. Anselm College, August 2003. Joyce also presented a poster, "Predicators, components and outcomes of exemplary school nursing practice" at the 2003 National Association of School Nurses Convention.

Catherine Read participated in the NCLEX-RN Examination item writing session in Chicago, IL in May 2003. She also published "The demands of biochemical genetic disorders: A survey of mothers of children with mitochondrial disease or phenylketonuria" in the *Journal of Pediatric Nursing*. She also co-authored "Phenylketonuria in Primary care of the child with a chronic condition (4th ed.), Allen & Vessey (Eds.), Mosby.

Callista Roy received an editorial / staff assistant grant from the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in the amount of \$48,000. Along with Margaret Murphy and Laurel Eisenhauer, she published "Mentoring: A project in process" in *Newsletter*, 2(3) of the International Network for Doctoral Education in Nursing. She also received the Distinguished Friend of Nursing Award at the Minnesota State University, Mankato, Minnesota, and was elected to the Board of Directors of the International Network for Doctoral Education in Nursing. She wrote "Reflections on nursing research and the Roy Adaptation Model" in the *Japanese Journal of Nursing Research* 36(1).

Mimi Secor, the 2003 Clinical Innovations speaker, and Joellen Hawkins authored "Practice, education, and research: The essential triad of nursing" in *Clinical Excellence for Nurse Practitioners*.

Susan Sheehy delivered the 2003 commencement address to graduates at Boston University's Sargent College. She is also the chair of the New England Spinal Cord Initiative, which has already received backing from both Massachusetts U.S. Senators' offices. Her nursing career, which took a drastic switch in focus following an accident that left her son a quadriplegic, now is involved in advocacy work for patients and families with spinal cord injury was featured in the Fall *William F. Connell School of Nursing Newsletter*.

The BC faculty careers (totaling a combined sixty-four years of service) of Rachel Spector, Margaret Murphy and Sara Fry were featured in the *William F. Connell School of Nursing Newsletter* for Fall 2003.

Patricia Tabloski has received additional funding from the John A. Hartford Foundation/American Association of Colleges of Nursing to support her project entitled "Geriatric nursing education project: Creating careers in geriatric advanced practice nursing."

Linda Tenofsky was selected as a 2003 Fellow for the Helene Fuld Health Trust executive leadership institute in San Antonio TX. She is also serving as a site visitor for the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

Judith Vessey published "Children's psychological responses to hospitalization" in the *Annual Review of Nursing Research: Research on Child Health and Pediatric Issues*. She also co-authored with Carol Marchetti "Mood disorders" in *Primary care of the child with a chronic condition* (4th ed.), Allen & Vessey (Eds.), Mosby, and co-authored a chapter in *Chronic disorders and child development*. Judy also served as chair of the Resilience and Self-Esteem Building Task Force at the National KySS Summit and contributed "Building resilience in youth: Task force summary and recommendations" in *Journal of Pediatric Health Care*, 17(6). Along with Karen Carlson and Joyce David she published "Helping children who are being teased and bullied" in *Nursing Spectrum*, 4(11). She continues her participation in "ADHD Experts on call" panel

Katrina Wain appeared on a recent episode of "Babies - Special delivery" on the Discovery Health Channel. Katrina is currently working at the University of California-San Diego Medical Center in the High Risk Birth area.

Kathleen Walsh has enrolled in the doctorate in nursing program at the University of Connecticut.

Nancy Weinberg has passed the Nursing Professional Development certification offered by the American Nurses Credential Center in nursing education and development. She is a nurse educator at Newton-Wellesley Hospital.

Robin Wood presented "Video breast kits: Testing a cancer education innovation in older high-risk populations" at the International Council of Nursing in Geneva, Switzerland.

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 Louisedichard@aol.com or to Barbara Madden, Newsletter Editor at bmadden@attbi.com. We will be happy to spread the good cheer.

ERRATA

The editor reports with regret that the "Knowledge for Practice" article in the August 2003 edition lacked the name of one of the writers / researchers. **Jacqueline Somerville** should have been credited with co-authorship along with Amanda Coakley. This was an editorial oversight.

BCCSSON INFORMATION SESSIONS

All Graduate Programs
February 10, 2004
Exploring Higher Education
Master's Education seminar
April 13, 2004
Doctoral Education seminar
March 25, 2004
All programs will take place
Cushing Hall
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
To register, call
617-552-4928
or visit us on-line at:
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SPRING 04 CALENDAR

<i>date</i>	<i>event</i>	<i>time</i>	<i>place</i>
Wed. Jan. 21, 2004	Executive Board Meeting	5:30-7:00 PM	Cushing 413
Wed. Jan. 28, 2004	Business Meeting Clinical Innovation Dinner Clinical Innovation Program Speaker: Dr. Courtney Lyder	5:45-6:45 PM 6:30-7:30 PM 7:30-8:30 PM	Heights Room
Tues. Feb. 3, 2004	Snow date. Listen to WBX or WHDH Radio in the afternoon for announcement of cancellation or call BCCSON @ 617-552-4250		
Wed. Feb. 18, 2004	Executive Board Meeting	5:30-7:00 PM	Cushing 413
Wed. Mar. 24, 2004	Executive Board Meeting	5:30-7:00 PM	Cushing 413
Sun. Apr. 18, 2004	Induction Ceremony/Branch Speaker: Maureen Curtis Cooper	11:00-2:00 PM	Shea Room Conte Forum
Wed. May 5, 2004	Annual Meeting Networking/Poster Session Business Meeting Research Presentation Speaker: Ruth McCorkle	5:30-6:30 PM 6:30-7:30 PM 7:30-9:00 PM	Shea Room Conte Forum
Wed. May 19, 2004	Executive Board Meeting	5:30-7:00 PM	Cushing 413
Wed. June 16, 2004	Transitional Board / Chairs Meeting	5:30-7:00 PM	Cushing 413

additional dates:

Newsletter Deadlines: May 16, 2004 (August Newsletter)
Membership applications: Dec. 1, 2003
Research Applications: Feb. 22, 2004
Clinical Awards, Essays and Mentor: April 9, 2004

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