At the fall Executive Board meeting we began planning for our 2016 Conference with Sister Callista suggesting that we celebrate our 25 years as an organization of members who develop and promote knowledge for nursing practice based on the Roy Adaptation Model. Later, Sr. Callista added the fact that it was also 50 years since she finished papers on the Roy Model as she graduated in 1966 with her masters from University of California. The Board was excited about celebrating our past but also eager to be forward looking, thus we choose the Conference theme of Roadmap for the Next 25 Years.

Some of our members know the story of how Susan Pollock called Sr. Callista and together they invited others to submit and present a paper on five studies based on the Roy Adaptation Model at the Council of Nurse Researchers in Los Angeles, CA in 1991. The presentation was so successful that the group began meeting in Boston to write an article on the combined work and called themselves the Boston-Based Adaptation Research in Nursing Society (BBARNS). Besides Susan Pollock and Sr. Callista, the original group included Keville Frederickson, Margaret Carson and Veta Massey. BBARNS continued to meet and build on their beginnings with further publications and other early members joined: Kathy Lauchner, Martha Whetsell and...
Call for Abstracts:
Please submit your abstracts in response to the “Roadmap for the Next 25 Years for Knowledge Based on the RAM” theme by Monday, April 1, 2016. Award papers will be selected as podium presentations and others will be invited to present posters. A category of Young Scholar will also include an award for a student—undergraduate, masters, PhD or DNP.

Instructions for Abstract Submission
1. Submit two abstracts—Please note that your abstract should be no more than one page typed. 
   a. One with the name(s) and address of authors
   b. One for blind review, i.e. NO personal identifying information

2. Scoring—Judging will be based on the following criteria.
   a. Quality of scholarship reflected
   b. Authenticity of use of the Roy Adaptation Model
   c. Potential contribution to practice, education, or research
   d. Contribution to the conference theme
   e. Innovation of use of the Roy Adaptation Model
   f. Potential for further knowledge development

Email submissions to: Alyssa Hopper at hopperal@bc.edu by Monday, April 1, 2016.

2016 Conference: Looking Forward

Stacey Barone. The core group then opened membership to the public and soon gave the first conference in Falmouth, MA, eventually changing the name of the organization to the Roy Adaptation Association.

During our 2016 Workshops and Conference on June 10 and 11, 2016 we will celebrate many achievements of the past 25 years, including anniversaries within our international chapters—25 years for Universidad de La Sabana, Colombia and a 10 year anniversary for St. Mary’s College, Japan. Most importantly the Board members have challenged themselves to look forward to the changes that will occur in the next 25 years in education, practice, and leadership and how the RAA will provide a vision for these differences with a Roadmap for the Next 25 Years of Knowledge Based on the RAM.

An added feature of this year’s conference will include the unveiling of Sr. Callista Roy’s archives and a public celebratory reception held Friday, June 10, 2016 in Boston College’s Burns Library. This event will honor those who have contributed to the success of the Roy Model and the organization.
Recent Events & News

Congratulations Martha Velasco-Whetsell!

In early October, our very own Martha Velasco-Whetsell was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing’s 2015 Class of Academy Fellows. Martha was sponsored by fellow RAA Member Keville Frederickson and City University of New York colleague Donna M. Nickitas. As a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, Dr. Velasco-Whetsell is finally being awarded for her significant contributions to the fields of nursing and health care. Congratulations Martha, we are so fortunate to have your support and are thrilled to see your commitment to nurses worldwide is being recognized.

New Resources for RAA Members

RAA Article Database

The RAA is very pleased to announce the release of a new database compilation of Sr. Callista Roy’s works starting in 1967. This ongoing project will allow RAA members to access full articles of Sr. Callista’s works for research and educational purposes.  

Click here to access the RAA Article Database

Teaching Overview of Roy Model in Spanish to be Published

A teaching tool on the Roy Adaptation Model translated into Spanish is moving into production. Dr. Martha Velasco-Whetsell created PowerPoint slides for the major text on the Roy Adaptation Model (Roy, 2009) along with an assessment document. Martha and Sr. Callista formed a partnership with Christina C. Burns, a senior editor and her colleagues at Wolters Kluwer-Lippincott to create the translations as part of their program to make a major contribution to educational needs.

RAA Colombia, La Libre: New Chapter President

Please join me in welcoming our newest RAA Chapter President, Andrea Buitrago Malaver who will be heading RAA Colombia, Universidad de la Libre’s chapter. We are very excited about our latest addition to the RAA International Executive Board and look forward to her contributions.

Coming soon: RAA website renovation! Keep an eye out!
The 16th Annual Roy Adaptation Association International Workshops and Conference returned back to Boston College last June 2015. Despite its domestic location, this conference was all about its international theme focusing on the “Global Perspective of the Roy Adaptation Model—Countries and Cultures”. The keynote address also reflected this international theme, but with the added perspective, as Sr. Callista presented on “Global Perspective of Roy Adaptation Model: Theorist’s View”.

This year the international theme permeated the entirety of the conference with our high international attendance and very successful Global Panel included president of RAA Mexico, St. Luis Potosi Chapter: Aracely Diaz Oviedo, RAA Japan’s: Sumiko Tsuhako, RAA Panama, University of Panama’s: Yolanda Gonzalez and RAA Colombia, Universidad de la Sabana’s: Maria Elisa Moreno Fergusson.

In addition to the Global Panel, very successful workshops were presented on the Roy Adaptation Model based Middle Range Theory for Teaching Evidence-Based Practice at Multiple Levels (undergraduate to doctoral) and Applied Globally and the Roy Adaptation Model based Middle Range Theory for Evidence-Based Practice Applications, Emphasizing Becoming Leaders and Application Globally.

Additional highlights included the RAA awards ceremony and poster session, which included a number of exciting presentations. The winner of the Student-Young Scholar Award, Linda Michelle McCafferty, RN, BSN, CCRP presented a very engaging paper titled: Research Nurse and the Global Community: Application of Middle Range Theory to Black Community Adaptation. The abstract for this paper can be found on page 5. Additionally, the Carol Baer Award winner, Mildred Ortu Kowalski, PhD, RN presented an interesting paper titled: Using the Roy Adaptation Model to Compare Information Seeking, Pain and Adaptation in Japanese American and European American Men with Prostate Cancer. Please see page 4 for more information on Dr. Kowalski’s presentation.

Looking back, it is truly inspiring to see the global impact of the Roy model. Thank you again to all of our members, especially those that have made our global expansion possible. We are so fortunate to have your support.
Faced with a diagnosis of cancer, adaptation is a challenging and multi-faceted process. For men diagnosed with prostate cancer, adaptation encompasses changes in social interactions, physical limitations and role function (Germino et al., 1998; Hoskins et al., 1996). Information-seeking and the reporting of pain promote adaptation and are explained by the Roy Adaptation Model (Boston Based Adaptation Research in Nursing Society, 1999; Roy & Andrews, 1991); which guided the theoretical, conceptual and empirical framework for this study.

As the United States becomes more ethnically diverse, nurses are challenged to care for patients from different cultures. The purpose of this descriptive study was to explore ethnic differences in information-seeking behavior (Krantz Health Opinion Survey, KHOS; Krantz et al., 1980), self-reported pain (Brief Pain Inventory, BPI; Cleeland & Ryan, 1994), and adaptation (Psychosocial Adjustment to Illness Scale, PAIS; Derogatis & Derogatis, 1990), in Japanese American and European American men, treated for prostate cancer.

Data from 89 consenting participants, 12 Japanese American and 78 European American, were analyzed using Wilcoxon Rank Sum. The median age was 70. Most participants were married, protestant and college graduates. The ethnic groups were well-matched for age, marital status, number of children, highest education level and income. The most common treatments for prostate cancer reported were androgen deprivation therapy (65%), surgery (55%), and radiation (53%), which are representative of treatment strategies for prostate cancer in the USA.

Because three comparisons were performed on the same dataset, a Bonferroni adjustment for significance level was used. The significance level was set at p = .017 (.05/3), to detect an alpha of .05. Wilcoxon Rank Sum analysis was performed for each of three main comparisons: 1) information seeking (KHOS), 2) self-reported pain (BPI), and 3) adaptation to illness (PAIS). A difference in information-seeking (KHOS) between the Japanese American and European American groups, p = 0.012, was observed. Overall information-seeking (i.e. inquisitiveness) correlated with better adjustment (p = 0.006). No differences were seen in adaptation using the PAIS which measures multiple domains as well as overall adaptation or adjustment to illness (Barone, 1993). No differences were seen in self-reported severity of pain.

The study provides insight for nurses to better care for patients across ethnic groups. The results of this study support ethnic differences in information-seeking patterns observed previously by other researchers (Kagawa-Singer, 1988; Kakai et al., 2003). Nurses caring for patients who are Japanese American should proactively offer information, rather than to wait for the patient to ask for guidance. Additional research is needed to determine if these findings are transferable outside of the USA. Importantly, the study provides support for the use of the Roy Adaptation Model as a framework for both research and practice. Heightening awareness of cultural/ethnic similarities and differences strengthens the ability to provide culturally sensitive and ultimately culturally competent care for patients.
Humanizing health care by eliminating health disparities for black Americans is an ethical imperative in the United States with profound global implications. A breakdown of trust occurred with the Tuskegee study and continues to affect research initiatives worldwide. Despite bearing an unequal burden of disease, black Americans are under-represented in clinical research. Globally treatment and prevention of HIV, Ebola, and other infectious diseases are influenced by the trust of researchers. Roy’s assumption of Veritivity regards relationships between humanity, the environment and a loving Creator as a mutually purposeful existence, whereby nursing is charged with contributing to knowledge based practices that advance the common good (Roy, 2011). Evidence for a lack of global synergy unfolded with the recent Ebola epidemic, illuminating multiple barriers which continue to perpetuate health disparities, and research inequity in black populations globally.

The purpose of this paper is to explore innovative nursing interventions within the framework of the Roy Adaptation Model (RAM). Concepts of Middle Range Theory of the Adapting Family (Hayden & Buckner, 2014) were applied to direct initiatives that foster trust building, promote knowledge development, and eliminate barriers to black American representation in clinical research. The concept of community adaptation of the black community was used to guide this theoretical discussion.

Applying the MRT of the Adapting Family to black Americans and the black community involves stimuli, coping processes, and outcomes to engage the group in clinical research. Stimuli creating ineffective group adaptation involve historical events, racial and ethnic discrimination, cultural beliefs, and societal mistrust which have served as de-stabilizing coping mechanisms. Focal stimuli such as access limitations which pose immediate threats to health equity in the black population have developed over time. Contextual stimuli continue as perceptions of mistrust, and lack of knowledge of research regulations which prevent unethical research participant abuse experienced in the past (Tuskegee University, 2014). Attempting to nurture group coping strategies begins with analyzing group behavioral adaptation through nursing assessment of the group’s adaptive modes. Stabilizer and the Innovator processes may act towards obtaining an adaptive state whereby black populations are equally represented in clinical research. Perceptions which generate mistrust of clinical research can be overcome by establishing trusting relationships at the institutional as well as individual level (Colon-Otero et al., 2012). Strong alignments with faith communities as stabilizer subsystems enable both trust building and knowledge transfer for innovator subsystem processes to flourish in unison for group “growth, survival, and coherence” (Hayden and Buckner, 2014). Roy encourages nurses “to transform society to one that promotes dignity and to transform the universe” (Roy, 2011). Inclusiveness in clinical research enables life affirming transformations of black Americans as a societal group, which applies to global health inequities. MRT of the Adapting Family identifies a framework for engaging the black community through research nursing interventions that build trust and promote knowledge development in order to empower individual and collective accountability for health transformation.
Thoughts from the Theorist...

We are still enjoying the energy and enthusiasm of our 2015 Conference where we had many opportunities to feature the global perspective we share with our 7 international chapters. We were delighted that so many chapter leaders attended and were able to contribute with their unique opinions. The Global Panel (described on p. 4) provided us with a wonderful perspective of all that our international chapters are doing in their own geographic areas and in consultation with neighboring countries. Board members from the USA and from other countries worked together on highly successful workshops. You will note by the two papers featured that our award winners also added to our global theme. To offer a different perspective I had fun classifying a 6 months sample of the international contacts of the Theorist, in addition to the work of our chapters.

This momentum has continued as we brought our international chapter leaders into our Strategic Plan (now in progress) with a virtual orientation and opportunity for phone discussion with both myself and our RAA Executive Director, Alyssa Hopper. Our expanded Executive Board has begun planning the 2016 Workshops and Conference. Because of the special event of a double Anniversary, one for RAA and one for the Roy Adaptation Model, we are featuring the conference theme and events early, as you will have noted on our cover and the article on p. 2.

The celebratory public reception and archives inauguration will be a new one-time event and one that we look forward to with joyful anticipation. However, of course we will keep the other events that have been so successful in recent years. With the general theme of Roadmap for the Next 25 Years of Knowledge Based on the RAM, we will have a call for award winning papers. In addition, our Executive Board has planned informative and forward thinking workshops. Given how important networking is to our organization, we will also feature a Networking Breakfast on our opening day. With the great organization and many contributions of Conference 2015, we are even more looking forward to the 2016 Conference and encourage you all to plan to join us in Boston for the special time.

Sr. Callista Roy, PhD, RN, F.AAN

RAA Member Renewal

Enjoy Roy Adaptation Association Benefits. Send in your initial membership request or renewal today!

Either click here to fill out an online application OR fill out the form below and mail it along with payment to the address listed. All checks should be made out to the Roy Adaptation Association.

Please check type of membership.

- Full Member (any interested scholar) Annual Fee $75
- Renewal (previous RAA member) Annual Fee $60
- Student (current graduate or undergraduate student) Annual Fee $50
- Group (institution or program) Annual Fee $200

Name/Title/Affiliation: ____________________________________________________________
Preferred Address: ______________________________________________________________
Email: _____________________________

Attn: Alyssa Hopper, Roy Adaptation Association, Connell School of Nursing, Boston College,
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