The Dean Speaks
Dr. Richard L. Sowell, PhD, RN, FAAN

Welcome to the Spring 2008 issue of Excellence. This is an exciting time for the WellStar College of Health and Human Services. I shared in my last column that the WellStar College was getting a new home – a very nice new home. A new $60-million Health Sciences building is moving forward toward construction on the north end of the Kennesaw State campus. Our Health Sciences building is part of a larger construction plan for additional student housing, a new parking deck, and a university cafeteria. This building which is projected to be completed in the next three years will transform the north precinct of our campus. The parking deck and student housing are already well underway with construction moving at a lightning pace. This growth compliments the recent dedication of the new Bobbie Bailey and Family Performance Hall. Kennesaw State is undergoing a transformation. As part of this transformation, a new entrance to the KSU campus is planned off Frey Road, near the new Health Sciences building and parking deck. This plan will make our new building a prominent feature of a new gateway concept for the campus’ main entrance.

Faculty members of the WellStar College have been working closely over the last six months with the architects of the Health Sciences building on the design phase of the project. Dr. David Bennett, Assistant Dean, is the point person for the College and chairs the University’s Health Sciences building planning team. However, long before the architects began their design, members of the faculty from each department had traveled to different universities across the country to determine what they liked, and what would be most effective in helping to meet the teaching goals of the WellStar College’s programs. I am delighted to say that the combined efforts of an outstanding team, architects, University facilities management, our Associate VP for Planning, and a group of dedicated faculty have resulted in what I believe will be a signature building on the KSU campus. A rendering of our new building is presented in this issue of Excellence. As you will see, the new Health Sciences building is a bold, academic building that symbolizes the movement of a growing University and College. A focus on constructing a building that is environmentally friendly, that represents health and wellness, and merges the interior of the building with its external surrounds has been a driving goal of the building’s design.

On entering the new Health Sciences building, a visitor will note several unique features. There will be an open stairway that ascends to the third floor. Moving through the entrance way, there will be an indoor plaza that looks out into a garden. Closely positioned is a large auditorium. These aspects of the building will serve as a place for students to socialize and relax, as well as a place to hold special events and conferences. The first floor also contains three large-tiered classrooms, a biomechanics laboratory, and an exercise physiology laboratory. The second floor provides more classrooms, seminar rooms, and nursing skills and simulation laboratories. The third floor of the building provides much-needed office space for the School of Nursing and the Department of Social Work and Human Services. Smaller classrooms and seminar rooms are located throughout the new, four-story building. The fourth floor of the building will house the College administration, a research suite, and the Global Center for Social Change. A new upscale Board Room and offices for members of the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Sport Science will be on the fourth floor. One of the deliberate decisions we have made in the design of the new building is to secure space at the front of the building on several floors for student study and lounge areas. From these spaces, students will have an existing view of the central campus and the outdoor student plaza that separates the Health Sciences building and the new dining hall. By assigning this key space to students, the College has made a statement as to the high value we place on our students.

I have only touched the surface of the many new spaces, features, and opportunities the new Health Sciences building will provide to the WellStar College and the KSU community. While I hope you can feel my pride in our new building and the efforts of our faculty, much work remains. The construction team has been chosen, and ground breaking is projected for late summer or early fall of 2008. Faculty committees are busy evaluating equipment needs, working...
Celebration 40th Anniversary School of Nursing

This year, 2008, marks the 40th anniversary of the beginning of the WellStar School of Nursing at Kennesaw State University and the establishment of the first nursing program in 1968. Nursing at KSU began as an associate degree program in nursing at Kennesaw Junior College, graduating its first class in 1970.

In 1985, in order to meet the growing need for nursing education, a baccalaureate degree in nursing program was added with the first class completing in 1987. In an effort to combat the ever-increasing nursing shortage, the baccalaureate program now boasts several study options, including a traditional baccalaureate degree, an accelerated baccalaureate degree, and an RN-BSN completion bachelor's degree.

In 1995, changes in health care and new roles for nurses prompted another significant change in the programs offered by the Nursing School. The associate degree program was closed and the first graduate program, the WellStar Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Program, was implemented. A second graduate program, the MSN in Advanced Care Management and Leadership, was added in 2004 and designed to prepare experienced registered professional nurses to serve in leadership positions in both practice and nursing education arenas.

Since its beginnings as an associate degree program and after 40 years, the WellStar School of Nursing continues to achieve the ongoing goal of creating and sustaining exemplary undergraduate and graduate nursing programs that promote academic excellence while preparing students to become outstanding health care providers. The WellStar School of Nursing offers outstanding opportunities for the preparation of nursing professionals.

KAREN et and HIV Prevention Planning in Georgia

Since 1994, the Georgia Community Planning Group (GCPG) and the Georgia Department of Human Resources (DHR) have shared the responsibility for identifying, developing, and implementing an effective and culturally-sensitive HIV prevention plan.

Community planning that focuses on HIV prevention is mandated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). If a state does not have a community planning process in place, it is unable to receive monies from the CDC to support their HIV prevention program.

One of the outcomes of the community planning process is the Comprehensive HIV Prevention Plan. KAREN et is an initiative that was founded in 2003 by Drs. Barbara Blake, Assistant Professor of Nursing; Gloria Taylor, Professor of Nursing; Richard Sowell, Dean of College of Health and Human Services; Annette Bairan, Professor of Nursing; and Timothy Aker. The goal of this initiative is to work with nonprofit community-based organizations, philanthropy, and government agencies that are fighting the national and global HIV/AIDS pandemic. KAREN et focuses on the HIV/AIDS epidemic from an interdisciplinary perspective. Over the last five years, the WellStar College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) and KAREN et team members have received more than $600,000 in external funding to work on a variety of HIV-related projects. In completing these projects, KAREN et team members have worked with faculty from Visual Arts, English, Geography, Human Services departments, and the Barrus Institute. These projects have also provided both undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to work with faculty and learn about applied research.

In 2007, CHHS received $99,841 from the Georgia Department of Human Resources, HIV Prevention Branch, to work with the GCPG in updating the state's HIV Comprehensive Plan. Dr. Barbara Blake served as Project Director for the 2008 update and Drs. Gloria Taylor, Timothy Aker, and Jonathan VanGeest were Co-Project Directors. In developing the Comprehensive Plan, KAREN et team collaborated with faculty from departments across the campus. Carole Hugh-Lewis, Associate Professor of Art, designed the cover and formatted the document; Dr. Mark Patterson, Associate Professor of Geography, created maps using epidemiological data collected by KAREN et team members; and Dr. Laura Dabundo, Professor of English, served as editor.

The Comprehensive HIV Prevention Plan is important because it provides community-based organizations that are working to decrease the number of new HIV infections with data about the scope of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the state, identifies those populations who are at high risk of becoming infected, and describes population-based prevention interventions (continued)
that have been scientifically proven to be effective in reducing the risk of infection. Community-based organizations use this informa-
tion to tailor HIV prevention programs that will be efficacious in their 
communities and to secure additional funding to support programs. This document also includes information about the
Georgia HIV Community Planning Group and a synopsis of the 
state’s most recent HIV Community Services Assessment.

HIV Update: Living with HIV

The Northwest Chapter of the Georgia Nurses Association (GNA) and Mu Phi Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International, Nursing 
Honour Society, sponsored the seminar, HIV Update: Living with HIV, on November 7, 2007, at the Kennesaw State University’s 
Learning Center. Participants representing a broad spectrum of 
nursing practice, including many School’s of Nursing students and 
faculty attended the Conference.

Constance Graves, chair of GNA Northwest Metro Chapter, 
opened the meeting by expressing thanks to the financial sponsors, 
Abbot Laboratories, Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Bristol 
Meyer Squibb, and Tibotec Therapeutics.

Dr. Richard Sowell, Dean of the WellStar College of Health & 
Human Services, welcomed the group to the Kennesaw State 
University and pledged ongoing support for the efforts of broad-
casting and disseminating relevant research, providing nursing 
practice updates, and helping to shape legislative policies surrounding 
HIV. Dr. Sowell stated that the mutual goal of all those present 
was to improve the health of the community and that the 
ongoing education for nurses in the area of HIV/AIDS would 
help to accomplish that goal.

State Grant to Help Keep Kennesaw State Students Safe 
on Georgia Highways

The Georgia Governor’s Office of Highway Safety (GOGHS) has 
awarded to Kennesaw State University a $17,900 grant, focusing on 
keeping students safe on the road through a high-visibility aware-
ness campaign and education efforts among high-risk student 
groups. The grant, which runs through Sept. 30, 2008, is issued through 
GOGHS to implement the Georgia Young Adult Program, a 
peer-education initiative focused on reducing the number of traffic 
fatalities among 18 to 24-year-olds. Traffic crashes are one of the 
leading causes of death in the United States for this age group.”Our 
state’s teen drivers represent a disproportionate number of drivers 
involved in crashes that involve injuries and deaths on Georgia’s 
roadways,” said Bob Dallas, Director of the Governor’s Office of 
Highway Safety. “We look forward to our colleges and universities 
working with their peers to change the perception that crashes are 
accidents which can’t be prevented. They can. Our hope is to have 
every high school and college student graduate without being 
involved in an injury or a fatality crash,” Bob Dallas added.

Specifically, KSU will use grant funds to promote safety belt use, as 
well as the prevention of impaired driving, according to Sherry 
Grable, director of the Center for Health Promotion and Wellness 
at KSU.

“At Kennesaw State, the emphasis will be upon social norming of 
healthy, positive behaviors that will reduce the risk of death or 
injury from car crashes on our highways,” Grable explained. “For 
example, instead of saying that a certain percentage of students are 
driving and drinking, we will promote the majority who are not.”

“Banners and posters in prominent places, such as parking deck 
entrances on the KSU campus, will help get these positive messages 
to students,” Grable said.

Additionally, during critical periods such as St. Patrick’s Day and 
Spring Break, officials will mail postcards focusing on buckling up 
and staying sober on the roads to specific high-risk student 
populations, such as first-year students. Grant funds will also be 
used to purchase student access to MyStudentBody.com, a Web 
site which helps assess high-risk behaviors and educates students 
about drinking. The GOGHS grant funds will also be used to train 
student peer health educators at Kennesaw State to help educate 
other students on the dangers of drinking and driving and the 
importance of seat-belt use.

Cobb County crash data shows a clear need to boost highway 
safety among 18 to 24-year-olds. Vehicle crashes, injuries and 
fatalities among drivers in this age group represented 38 percent of 
crashes in Cobb County from 2003 to 2005. Sadly, the number of 
traffic fatalities during that same time period among 18 to 
24-year-olds increased 22 percent.

“We hope our efforts will help make a significant contribution to 
the safety of not only Kennesaw State students but also the safety 
of our friends, family and neighbors in Cobb County and beyond,” Grable said. “Later in 2008, KSU will also reach out to the next 
generation of college students through planned programs at local 
high schools,” Grable explained.

For more information about the Georgia Young Adult Program 
through the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety, visit 
www.gahighwaysafety.org/youngadult

Professional Practice and Ethics Conference

On Friday, February 15, 2008, for the first time in the 
history of the WellStar School of Nursing, 400 undergraduate 
nursing students and faculty came together to participate in the 
Professional Practice & Ethics Conference held at the KSU 
Student Center. Dr. Richard Sowell, Dean of the WellStar 
College of Health and Human Services, extended a welcome to 
all attendees and recognized nursing students of all levels of 
education. The Dean emphasized the importance and the need 
for professional and ethical behavior. The conference’s purpose 
was to give students an overview of the code of ethics that 
governs professional nursing practice.

Included in the day’s activities were presentations by Dr. Lois 
Robley, Professor and Ethics Scholar at KSU. Dr. Robley spoke 
about the basics of professional ethics and where to find guid-
ance to meet ethical standards. Dr. Karen Robinson, Associate 
Professor, and a drama team from the College of the Arts, 
Theatre and Performance Studies offered scenarios (continued)
Community Health Care

The Mu Phi Chapter, STTI, Nursing Honor Society was originally started by various faculty at Kennesaw State University to allow students the opportunity to be a part of this organization. Those dynamic and visionary members translated the core values of leadership and scholarship into action for this chapter. Their foresight and diligence, as well of other members of Sigma Theta Tau over the years, have made this an organization that makes a difference for KSU students and members of our community. The vision of Mu Phi, crafted from STTI, is to create local/regional communities of leaders, educators, and scholars. Thus, the focus of the organization is to attend to the learning and professional development needs of nurse leaders, educators, and scholars. The Mu Phi Chapter provides opportunities for mentoring for our students in leadership and research. In addition to the annual induction ceremony, the chapter sponsors various workshops and meetings related to these topics. Over the last three years, the chapter has provided an annual research day to showcase the scholarship and research opportunities of the WellStar School of Nursing students, faculty, and community professionals who are members of this chapter. This year, the day was April 23, 2008, at the KSU Learning Center. The focus was on research and scholarly activity related to Working with Vulnerable Populations and Health Disparities.

News from the Center for Community Health Care

The Center for Community Health Care is a public service center within the WellStar College of Health and Human Services at KSU. Originally, the Center was formed in fall 2002, but under the leadership of Dean Sowell and the director, Dr. Kathie Aduddell, the Center is reframing and reorganizing. The mission is to promote practice and services capabilities for faculty and students and enhance the educational and research experiences and opportunities to improve the health of the disadvantaged and underserved populations within this area of the state. The Center fulfills this mission by providing the infrastructure for faculty to discover and engage in evidence-based practice within collaborative community partnership models; by establishing educational opportunities for students to discover and engage in community-based health care for disadvantaged and underserved populations; and by promoting avenues for research that improves quality, safety and outcomes, as well as developing tangible solutions for health care for vulnerable populations in this area.

The first year of development includes implementing a website; reorganizing the clinic’s program to meet the educational, scholarship and services mission of the university; incorporating Project IDEAL (led by Dr. Janice Long, Assistant Director of the Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Sport Science Department), the Center is reframing and reorganizing. Learning Community Project. Through the CETL Faculty Learning Communities Program, Dr. Aduddell and other faculty members have been meeting over the year to research faculty practice and development of best practices and students at the Center. This website will be accessible through the WellStar College’s of Health and Human Services site. This site will also provide information about the Center’s clinic program, Project IDEAL, and the opportunities for students to be involved in service learning. Further development of this site will occur in 2008 to provide information about the vulnerable populations and health disparities in Georgia as well as the nation.

Another exciting opportunity for the Center is the Faculty Learning Community Project. Through the CETL Faculty Learning Communities Program, Dr. Aduddell and other faculty members have been meeting over the year to research faculty practice and development of best practices and students at the Center. This website will be accessible through the WellStar College’s of Health and Human Services site. This site will also provide information about the Center’s clinic program, Project IDEAL, and the opportunities for students to be involved in service learning. Further development of this site will occur in 2008 to provide information about the vulnerable populations and health disparities in Georgia as well as the nation.

The present clinic program is managed through an innovative, collaborative partnership between KSU, MUST Ministries (family-based organization that assists the homeless and under-served populations in the area), and Cobb Health Partners, (501(c)3) entity that coordinates these efforts. Donna Chambers, Assistant Professor of Nursing at the WellStar School of Nursing, is the nurse practitioner for the clinic. As funding becomes available, more clinic sites will develop such opportunities at St. Stephens United Methodist Church in Marietta and another expansion at the MUST Ministries facilities in Cobb and Cherokee counties.

National Girls and Women in Sports

On November 29, 2007, the Mu Phi Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI), Nursing Honor Society, had the privilege of inducting 55 WellStar School’s of Nursing undergraduate and graduate students into the local chapter at Kennesaw State University. Since 1922, more than 405,000 nurses worldwide have been inducted as members of this honor society. Since 1922, more than 405,000 nurses worldwide have been inducted as members of this honor society. The mission of this international honor society is to support the learning, knowledge, and professional development of nurses committed to making a difference in health worldwide. This particular induction ceremony included close to thirty faculty members interacting with students to discuss selected questions. Students were able to state positive strategies for prevention of academic dishonesty. Diane Walker, Director of Judiciary Programs at KSU, explained the role of the Judicial Department and legal ramifications from a larger perspective, including the role and responsibility of a student who reports academic dishonesty.

Dr. Christina Horne, Director of the Undergraduate Nursing Program, concluded the conference with a summary of professional development and the Bobbie Bailey Awards, was held in the Stillwell Theater of the Wilson Building. Thirty-four young women from area high schools received The Bobbie Bailey Award for Athletic Excellence. The event was sponsored by KSU Health, Physical Education and Sport Science Department and HPS Majors Club, KSU Athletic Department, and the Georgia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (NGWSD). Current sponsors for NGWSD are: Girls Scouts of the USA, Girls Incorporated, the National Association for Girls and Women in Sport, the National Women’s Law Center, the Women’s Sports Foundation, and theYWCA USA. The keynote speaker was Amanda Weir, an Olympian and

Nursing Honor Society Induction Ceremony for KSU Students

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This particular evening was a special time to network and share enthusiasm and expertise with other honor society members. We were particularly honored to have Patricia Thompson, EdD, RN, FAAN, Chief Executive Officer for STTI, as a guest speaker. Dr. Thompson provided an excellent opportunity for this group of students to hear from one of our international leaders in nursing. She provided a message of the importance of membership into this nursing honor society and the privilege to serve in this great organization. Her inspirational message challenged the nursing students to lead the next generation into greatness. Her story of the flight of geese also brought a bit of humor as she emphasized the need to work as a team with various members taking the lead as required and not leaving individuals behind (as the geese do in their endeavors on this earth).

Two-time silver medalist in swimming. She was the 2004 silver medalist in the 400 meter freestyle relay and the 400 meter medley relay in Athens, Greece. In the summer of 2006, Amanda set an American record in the 100 meter freestyle at the U.S. National Championship. Later, she turned pro and returned to Atlanta where she currently trains with Coach Chris Davis at Swim Atlanta. Also recognized at the ceremony were accomplishments of KSU women’s athletic teams. Everyone was welcome, and the event was free to anyone interested in attending. Young women from local high schools and private schools were impressive, and the evening was inspiring!

On Monday, February 4, 2008, the 18th annual KSU celebration of National Girls and Women in Sports Day was better known as the Bobbie Bailey Awards, was held in the Stillwell Theater of the Wilson Building. Thirty-four young women from area high schools received The Bobbie Bailey Award for Athletic Excellence.

The event was sponsored by KSU Health, Physical Education and Sport Science Department and HPS Majors Club, KSU Athletic Department, and the Georgia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (NGWSD). Current sponsors for NGWSD are: Girls Scouts of the USA, Girls Incorporated, the National Association for Girls and Women in Sport, the National Women’s Law Center, the Women’s Sports Foundation, and theYWCA USA. The keynote speaker was Amanda Weir, an Olympian and a two-time silver medalist in swimming. She was the 2004 silver medalist in the 400 meter freestyle relay and the 400 meter medley relay in Athens, Greece. In the summer of 2006, Amanda set an American record in the 100 meter freestyle at the U.S. National Championship. Later, she turned pro and returned to Atlanta where she currently trains with Coach Chris Davis at Swim Atlanta. Also recognized at the ceremony were accomplishments of KSU women’s athletic teams. Everyone was welcome, and the event was free to anyone interested in attending. Young women from local high schools and private schools were impressive, and the evening was inspiring!

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North Fulton Regional Hospital and Tenet Healthcare Foundation Scholarship

Tenet Healthcare Foundation seeks to improve the lives of people in the communities served by Tenet hospitals by funding primarily local charities that address unmet health care needs. North Fulton Regional Hospital and Tenet Healthcare Foundation are making an impact where it’s needed the most in the communities they serve. Some of these efforts go toward helping people live better lives today, others are to make certain that quality health care will be there tomorrow. But everything they do is to ensure that good health means opportunity, the chance to do more, to live more and to get the most out of life. These are the things that matter most. Maria Martinez-Pankinton, Director of Tenet Healthcare Foundation, stated, “We’ve continued to honor our commitment to provide funds to help address some of the most important national issues in healthcare today, the things that matter most in our industry.”

North Fulton Regional Hospital and Tenet Healthcare Foundation are supporting the Nurse Refresher Program with $10,000 in scholarship funding for nurses returning to the professional workforce. Since 1997, the WellStar College’s Nurse Refresher Program has returned over 850 nurses to active practice. For more information about the nurse refresher program, please review the website at http://www.kennesaw.edu/col_hhs/schoolofnursing/coned.

Human Service Major Receives Scholarship from Kellogg Foundation

American Humanities, an organization that prepares students to strengthen and lead non-profit organizations, designated Caissa Nicole Lewis, a senior Human Service major, as the American Humanities NextGen Leader for the 2007-2008 academic year.

Funded by the Kellogg Foundation, the Next Generation Nonprofit Leaders Program (NextGen) is a competitive internship program in Oaxaca. This May will be the 13th year for students to take part in this three credit hour nursing elective course. During their Nursing Practicum visit, the students and Dr. Holtz provided exceptional care to one of the patients in a local hospital. The family of the patient was grateful to such an extent for his care and recovery that they gave an endowment to Kennesaw State University and to the Oaxaca Nursing Practicum program and used Holtz’s name for a scholarship fund. This scholarship will give two yearly $500 scholarships to qualified student nurses participating in the program in Oaxaca. This May will be the 13th year for students to take part in this three credit hour nursing elective course.

In November 2007, a group of 22 KSU Human Service majors, Sports Management majors and Social Work graduate students joined Drs. Alan Kirk, Anne Hicks-Coolick, John Johnson, and KSU’s President, Dan Papp, at the First International Seminar in Post-Disaster Intervention in Rheinsberg, Germany. This five-day training, underwritten by the German government and The Freudian Donnersmark Foundation with $50,000 Euros (approximately $80,000) and sponsored by the International Council of Sports Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE) and KSU, welcomed representatives from over 22 countries. This growing international seminar was so successful that it will be repeated next November at the same location for representatives of more than 35 countries. Drs. Alan Kirk, Ann Hicks-Coolick and John Johnson will conduct preliminary research in the relatively new area of social work and sport in disaster recovery.

Poverty & Globalization

Dr. Ardhit Peters, Associated Professor of Human Services, presented “Poverty & Globalization: A theoretical consideration” during the Globalization: Migration, Citizenship and Identity conference held at the University of Badan, in Badan, Nigeria, on November 6-9, 2007. Conference Partners included the Department of History, University of Badan; the Institute for Global Initiatives, Kennesaw State University; and the Southeast Africanist Network. Dr. Peters drew from her experience in Africa and her interest in socialization and classroom pedagogy to demonstrate how African content can be infused into teaching a variety of courses.

Leaders receive a scholarship of $4,500 during their internship, along with access to support from a network of nonprofit leaders and mentors. Earlier this year, Ms. Lewis, along with members of the KSU American Humanities Student Association and the Campus Director, Dr. Ardith Peters, attended the American Humanities Management Institute, an intensive educational symposium in Kansas City, where the awards were bestowed. Ms Lewis will graduate in May. She is completing her internship requirements at the Georgia Center for Non-Profits.

In November 2007, Dr. Barbara Blake, Assistant Professor of Nursing (left), and Dr. Gloria Taylor, Professor of Nursing, received the Clinical Article of the Year Award from the Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (JANAC) for the article “A portrait of HIV infection among men in the United States,” Volume 17, Number 6, November-December, 2006.

From left to right: Nancy DeLuca, United Way; Cheri Hanson-Rodriguez, Senior Services North Fulton; John Smith, Ondra House; Charles Schott, KSU; Yonnie Roberts, KSU; Barbara Duffy; North Fulton Community Charities; CEO Joe Austin; North Fulton Regional Hospital; Glenda Brown, KSU; and North Fulton Regional Hospital Senior Director of Marketing and Public Relations, Charles Hendricks.

Health, Physical Education & Sport Science and an Olympic Mission

The Chinese Olympic Committee invited Dr. Jin Wang, Professor in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Science, to provide psychological training to Chinese Olympic coaches and Chinese athletes in conjunction with the Chinese Home-Return Sport Science Service Plan for the 2008 Olympic Games. Dr. Wang has been working with the Chinese Olympic Women’s Soccer Team since fall of 2007. The Chinese Olympic Committee highly commended his work, and Chinese newspapers, a national sports TV channel, and other media repeatedly reported Dr. Wang’s psychological training activities in China.

The United States Olympic Committee (USOC) also invited Dr. Wang to be a keynote speaker in the Conference of Sport Psychology, at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. The conference took place in March, and USOC Registered Sport Psychologists who work with the U.S. Olympic Teams for preparations of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games attended the conference.

In May, 2007, Dr. Carol Holtz, Professor of Nursing, and her nursing students traveled to Oaxaca, Mexico during their Nursing Practicum visit, the students and Dr. Holtz provided exceptional care to one of the patients in a local hospital. The family of the patient was grateful to such an extent for his care and recovery that they gave an endowment to Kennesaw State University and to the Oaxaca Nursing Practicum program and used Holtz’s name for a scholarship fund. This scholarship will give two yearly $500 scholarships to qualified student nurses participating in the program in Oaxaca. This May will be the 13th year for students to take part in this three credit hour nursing elective course.

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The addition of a nationally-accredited Master of Social Work Program within the Department of Human Services necessitated the Department’s name change and as a symbol of the nature of the Human Services’ academic programs. Dr. Landley Black, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost of Kennesaw State University, approved the name change to Department of Social Work and Human Services (SWHS). The change was effective immediately and as new legislation becomes, the new name will appear on all of the department’s official documents.
Leadership Changes

December 16, 2007, at the annual conference in Orlando, Florida, the National Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (NANAC) recognized Dean Richard L. Sowell for his outstanding contributions to the organization. Dr. Sowell served as the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (JANAC) from 1994 until July 2007. Under Dr. Sowell’s leadership, JANAC has grown into an international journal that represents the only nursing journal focusing exclusively on issues related to HIV/AIDS. Over the last 11 years, JANAC has gained a reputation as the “go to” journal in HIV/AIDS care and prevention. The journal boasts an impressive impact factor rating and has been a highly-cited journal by several prestigious publishing companies. Currently, JANAC is published by Elsevier Publishing Company At the November recognition ceremony, Dr. Sowell was recognized for his tireless efforts to advance the quality and reputation of JANAC as he was awarded Editor Emeritus status by the JANAC Board of Directors. Congratulations Dr. Sowell!

Spotlight on Students: Kristin Harbaugh

Kristin Harbaugh is a 1999 graduate of Rosewell High School and a 2001 cum laude graduate of Kennesaw State University, where she was a member of Delta Phi Epsilon sorority, Student Government, Golden Key International Honour Society LINK, and the Ambassadors. In 2006, Kristin returned to KSU as a full-time student. Currently, in her second semester of the accelerated nursing program, she is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and has completed coursework for a minor in Applied Statistics and Data Analysis. She earned a certificate in Statistical Methods Using SAS in 2007 from KSU’s Department of Mathematics and Statistics. She has been included on both the Dean’s List and the President’s List and is a two-time recipient of the Lottie Pate Whitehead Foundation Scholarship. In October 2007, Kristin was elected to the 2007-2008 Executive Board of the Georgia Association of Nursing Students (GANS) where she serves as the Public Relations Director for GANS. She and her colleagues are hard at work preparing for the national NSNA convention in Texas, and next year’s Georgia Convention in Columbus. This busy student is also a member of the Golden Key International Honour Society, a world’s premier collegiate honor society that recognizes outstanding academic achievement and connects high-achieving individuals locally, regionally and globally, with life-time opportunity, reward & success. Kristin holds the position of Community Health Director for KSU’s Student Nurses Association. On October 25, 2007, Kristin represented the School of Nursing as one of two student speakers at KSU’s annual Scholarship Recipient and Donor Recognition Luncheon.

Dr. Richard Sowell, Dean of the WellStar College of Health and Human Services, received JANAC Award for Service and Leadership.

Nursing Career Fair

The February 2008 Nursing Career Fair, organized by the WellStar Schools of Nursing advisement team, was a big success. Nursing career fairs are planned twice a year and are a popular event among students. The fair took place at the KSU Student Center and nearly 300 students attended. Over thirty employers that set their exhibit tables with information and goodies baring their name awaited their participation. Door prizes were provided by Floyd Medical Center that donated a MPE player, DaVita a game, and Emory Healthcare a stethoscope. At the start of the fair, coffee and pastries were served, and lunch was provided to all guests.

Master’s Nursing Programs Welcome Dr. Lynda Nauright as Long-Time Head, Dr. Genie Dorman, Steps Down

After serving as coordinator/director of the Graduate Degree Nursing programs for 12 years, Dr. Genie Dorman decided to step down from that position, effective January 1. Stopping in as acting Interim Director is Dr. Lynda Nauright. Dr. Dorman has returned to full-time faculty for the master's nursing program.

Dr. Dorman leaves behind many accomplishments during her tenure, including establishing the first Master’s of Science in Nursing (MSN) program at KSU in 1995, with the implementation of the WellStar Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Program. A second graduate program, the MSN in Advanced Care Management & Leadership, was added to School’s curriculum in 2005. Graduates of the WellStar Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Program have consistently attained a 99-100% pass rate on the nurse practitioner national certification examination, attesting to Dr. Dorman's excellent leadership. "I am most proud of this outstanding achievement by the program's graduates," Dr. Dorman said. Also among her achievements was the recent recertification of both master's programs by the Commission of Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The evaluation team repeatedly praised her strong leadership, innovativeness and responsiveness to students' needs.

A KSU alumnus, Dr. Dorman received her ASN degree from Georgia State University where she was also awarded a PhD in Nursing in 1993. Dr. Dorman then earned a Family Nurse Practitioner Post-master's certificate at Emory University in 1995 and achieved national certification as a family nurse practitioner.

Dr. Nauright came to KSU last fall from the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University, where she served as Specialty Coordinator for the MSN program in Nursing Leadership and Administration. Dr. Nauright received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Louisiana State University and MSN from the Medical College of Georgia. She later earned her EdD in Higher Education Administration from the University of Georgia.
Doris Church, a Long-Time Laboratory Coordinator in the WellStar School of Nursing, Retires

On December 13, 2007, many former and current nursing faculty and staff members joined together to celebrate the retirement of Doris Church, a Learning Lab Resource Coordinator in the WellStar School of Nursing, and to honor her long-time service and dedication to the school. The authentically warm, joyful and hospitable celebration took place in the home of Dr. Christina Horns, Director of the Undergraduate Nursing Program. Doris’ colleagues and friends came to wish her well and to reminisce about their collective times and work in the School of Nursing. Doris Church retired after twenty years of illustrious service.

She began her nursing career immediately after graduating from Cherokee High School and attended the School of Nursing at Georgia Baptist Hospital. She received a nursing diploma in 1960 and continued her education at Tru College, earning a baccalaureate degree in nursing. After her graduation, she joined back the Georgia Baptist Hospital as a staff nurse and became a Fundamentals Instructor for their School of Nursing. She developed an interest in public health nursing and returned to her studies, earning a master’s degree in nursing from Emory University in 1967. During that time, she met and married Hansel Church. Doris continued her nursing career as an instructor at the Piedmont Hospital, but after a year, she left that position to raise her three children. In 1981, Doris completed Piedmont Hospital’s nurse refresher course and reentered her nursing profession, accepting a position in the Cobb General Hospital (now part of the Wellstar System), in the Coronary Care Unit.

In fall of 1985, she applied for a faculty position at KSU (then Kennesaw College) and was hired by the Nursing School’s dean, Judy Perkins, to serve as the Lab Coordinator in the A.D. program. She soon became responsible for both A.D. and B.S.N. students. The nursing laboratory at that time was located in a small administrative annex. During her tenure, she moved the laboratory three times - from annex to a trailer, to Chastain road office park, and back to the current nursing building. Doris helped many students to obtain their goal of becoming a nurse, and she was often recognized as a most influential faculty member. She was a role model and mentor and was a beloved colleague to faculty and staff Doris is currently living in her new home in Canton, Georgia.

New Nursing Faculty

Ann Johnson, RN, MSN, CNPN, comes to KSU as a lecturer in nursing from her position as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner with the neuro-oncology team at the AFLAC Cancer Center, at Scottish Rite Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta. Ann Johnson’s previous teaching experience was at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Her graduate education was in pediatric primary care, and she has clinical experience, caring for children with chronic illness, as well as in primary-care pediatrics.

Mary Beth Maguire, RN, MSN, NP-C, CNB, is happy to have taken the position of Coordinator and Lecturer of the Learning Resource Center. Her experience as a Nurse Educator began during her time as a Clinical Nurse working at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. It is there that she became interested in staff development as well as teaching bachelor level nursing students. While at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Mary Beth successfully completed a Master’s Degree in Nursing from Case Western Reserve University and became an Adult Nurse Practitioner. While completing her studies, she also worked as a Clinical Instructor and Lab instructor in the school’s Learning Resource Center. She was active in the planning committee for the million-dollar grant received to renovate the center after a million-dollar grant was received. After completing her graduate training, she worked as a Pharmaceutical Research Coordinator in Los Angeles, California. She participated in Phase II clinical trials for investigational psychotropic medications. After relocating to Sacramento, California, she began working as a Nurse Practitioner with the Department of Bariatric Surgery at the University of California, Davis Medical Center. She was instrumental in implementing staff training protocols, NIH grant writing and serving as a mentor to other nurses practitioners. Mary Beth is one of the first nurses in the United States to become a Certified Bariatric Nurse. She has also worked as an Instructor of Nursing for California State Fullerton with their RN to BSN program. Her professional interests include community improvement/resolution following bariatric surgery, and she has published data related to this topic.

The New Health Sciences Building Update

The Health Sciences building has generated a tremendous amount of interest and enthusiasm since its approval last year. Faculty members have been readily involved in planning class rooms, labs, departmental spaces and student community areas. One of the most exciting areas in the building is the large, open-three-story entry way and staircase connected to a spacious indoor plaza and a 230-seat auditorium. Glass walls and doorways lead from the plaza to an outdoor garden that creates an inviting area for students and for larger meetings or conferences.

Another exciting aspect is that the building will provide the college with a home that accommodates all the departments. Units of the College are now scattered in several different buildings. Lack of space has always limited the opportunity for growth in the School of Nursing and the Department of Social Work and Human Services. The new Health Sciences building will provide more than ten times the space in nursing labs, classrooms, and computer labs than it currently exists, allowing further expansion of our programs.

The architects in the prestigious, nationally-known firm of Cooper Carry Associates and the design team from Richards, Wirtzcheibe and Hand have been wonderful to work with and have listened carefully to the needs of the end-users. The building design is almost complete, and negotiations are underway with a construction firm. We anticipate construction will begin later this year, with completion projected to be late 2009 or early 2010.

New Health Sciences Building & Publications

PUBLICATIONS


The New Health Sciences Building

The new health sciences building update. The health sciences building has generated a tremendous amount of interest and enthusiasm since its approval last year. Faculty members have been readily involved in planning class rooms, labs, departmental spaces and student community areas. One of the most exciting areas in the building is the large, open three-story entry way and staircase connected to a spacious indoor plaza and a 230-seat auditorium. Glass walls and doorways lead from the plaza to an outdoor garden that creates an inviting area for students and for larger meetings or conferences. Another exciting aspect is that the building will provide the college with a home that accommodates all the departments. Units of the College are now scattered in several different buildings. Lack of space has always limited the opportunity for growth in the School of Nursing and the Department of Social Work and Human Services. The new Health Sciences building will provide more than ten times the space in nursing labs, classrooms, and computer labs than it currently exists, allowing further expansion of our programs. The architects in the prestigious, nationally-known firm of Cooper Carry Associates and the design team from Richards, Wirtzcheibe and Hand have been wonderful to work with and have listened carefully to the needs of the end-users. The building design is almost complete, and negotiations are underway with a construction firm. We anticipate construction will begin later this year, with completion projected to be late 2009 or early 2010.

Doris Church with her husband, Hansel Church, at the retirement celebration.
Nauright, L. Preparing Nursing Professionals for Advocacy, Service Learning, Caring for the Vulnerable, Perspectives in Nursing Theory, Practice, and Research, Chapter 39, second edition, Jones and Bartlett Publishers, in press.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS


PRESENTATIONS

Blake, B.J. & Akers, T.A. Toward a Comprehensive Understanding of Risk Factors for Health Disparity: Race Differences in Health Impact and Disparities Among America’s Healthiest Communities Coalition: Symposium on Race & Society, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, September 30 - October 2, 2007 (Invited Oral Presentation)
Collins, M.A. (2007, November). “Why are Americans so fat?” Invited presentation at the Georgia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance Convention, Atlanta, GA.
Flynn, Janice B. Predictors of Perceived Susceptibility to BRCA 1 and BRCA 2 in Women Who Have Not Been Diagnosed with Breast Cancer (Paper). Sigma Theta Tau International 39th Biennial Convention, Baltimore, MD, November 1, 2007 (Invited Oral Presentation)
Howton, A. (2007, November) “Rhythms through Improvisation.” Georgia Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance Convention, Atlanta, GA.


AWARDS

Kandice Johnson was the 2007 Georgia Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (GAHPERD) College/University Health Education Award Winner.
Kandice Johnson elected to Vice President of the General Division of Georgia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (GAHPERD) at the annual convention in Atlanta, November 2007.

Awards presented to students, faculty, and professionals in the field of health, education, and physical activity.