

WellStar College of Health & Human Services

excellence

- service
- leadership
- teaching innovations
- scholarship
- wellness



The Dean Speaks

Dr. Richard L. Sowell PhD, RN, FAAN

The College of Health and Human Services, as well as the School of Nursing at Kennesaw State University, has a new name. Both the College and School of Nursing have been renamed in recognition of The WellStar Health System's many contributions to the University and College.

WellStar Health System and the KSU School of Nursing have had a long and successful relationship. From 1985 to 1995 WellStar Health System contributed more than \$3 million to the School of Nursing to support the education of registered nurses through faculty salary support. In 1995, WellStar actively supported the development of the Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Program, and assisted three faculty members in obtaining a post-masters certificate as nurse practitioners. These nurse practitioners, in turn, later formed the core faculty that implemented our very successful Nurse Practitioner Program. Since 1995, a faculty member has held a joint appointment in the School of Nursing and at Atherton Place, WellStar's assisted living complex located in Marietta, across from Kennestone Hospital. For the past 30 years, WellStar Health System has served as one of the primary locations for clinical experiences for KSU nursing students, and WellStar remains one of the major employers of graduates from both our undergraduate and graduate nursing programs.

Most recently, WellStar Health System provided a \$3.1 million gift to the College as part of the initiation of a more formal partnership between the College and WellStar Health System. While the name changes of the College and School of Nursing are the most obvious initial result of this gift, this new partnership provides the foundation for many positive changes in our College. As part of the WellStar gift, funding for our community clinics is secure. These clinics provide healthcare to more than 2,500 individuals who may otherwise not receive healthcare services. Additionally, the WellStar gift will support the College's scholarship initiative by providing four Distinguished Scholars. The new Distinguished Scholar appointments will be in Health Care Ethics, African-American Health, Women's Health, and Gerontology. Drs. Lois Robley and Gloria Taylor have accepted the distinguished scholar positions in Health Care Ethics, and African-American Health, respectively. The College is currently recruiting for the Women's Health and Gerontology Scholar positions.

These new WellStar scholars represent an important step for the College in achieving regional and national recognition in the applied research arena. The new positions will serve to link the College of Health and Human Services and WellStar Health System in a way that facilitates the synergistic integration of academic and clinical expertise. Such a partnership offers the promise of moving both institutions to a new level that ultimately benefits students at the University and clients of the WellStar Health System. The potential positive outcomes resulting from this new partnership are unlimited.

An additional outcome of the WellStar gift will be the creating of a new Women's Wellness Center on the KSU campus. A house on Frey Lake Road has been designated as the new home of the Center. Joint planning for this facility between the University and WellStar is currently underway. The new WellStar Women's Wellness Center will be a major component of the University's overall Women's initiative, and it will serve as a focal point for scholarship in women's health issues and women's studies, as well as community programs. A hallmark of this new center will be collaboration between academic and clinical partners in addressing critical needs of women in our community.

The Women's Wellness Center offers an unparalleled opportunity for the College to blend its historical leadership in community engagement and service learning with the clinical expertise of the staff of WellStar. The end result of this collaboration will be the development of a unique academic-clinical partnership that addresses the evolving challenges of nursing education and healthcare delivery in Georgia.

...KSU and WellStar Health System have taken a bold step in visioning the future, and responding to this vision in a way that will insure the future vitality of both institutions.

In crafting this partnership, the leadership of Kennesaw State University and WellStar Health System has taken a bold step in visioning the future, and responding to this vision in a way that will insure the future vitality of both institutions. The College of Health and Human Services is proud of our long affiliation with a leading healthcare system such as WellStar.

We are determined to take a dynamic role in the future development of Kennesaw State University as a major

educational institution in the Southeast. Our new partnership with WellStar Health System — and its associated opportunities — dramatically increases the speed at which the College can reach its goal of national prominence.

Office of Research And Graduate Studies Is Open And Doing Business

On February 3, 2003, the Office of Research and Graduate Studies (ORGS) opened its doors for business. This was the first day Dr. Timothy A. Akers, M.S., Ph.D., started his new position as the Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies. Since the last newsletter, ORGS staff, which includes Ms. Kathy Rodgers, rolled up its sleeves and began work.

What has been accomplished during the writing of the last newsletter? To date, the ORGS has two office spaces dedicated for research purposes. They are equipped with state-of-the-art computers, fax, and scanners, as well as statistical programs, graphic programs, desks, SAGE research publication series, and comfortable office equipment. In addition, as of the end of May, Dr. Akers had more than 242 individual and group meetings, comprising colleagues from within and outside the KSU community, expressing the need for partnering in research. The ORGS staff has established collaboratives and partnerships with Morehouse School of Medicine, Boston University Medical School, Northwest Crescent Cancer Coalition, Hewlett Packard, Bristol-Myers Squibb, American Medical Association, Western Michigan University, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Macon State College, University of Georgia, NA Technologies, Medical Systems Development Corporation, Safe America, Cobb/Douglas Community Services Board, among many others. On an international front, the president of the University of Baguio, in the Philippines, invited Drs. Akers, Richard Sowell, and Carol Holtz to collaborate in the areas of clinical research and nursing. A site visit is scheduled for December 2003. Within the KSU community, the ORGS staff has been active in strengthening relationships with the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, School of Arts, Michael J. Coles College of Business, the College of Science and Mathematics, and the Bagwell College of Education.

These relationships have been the backbone in the proposal development process. The Office of Research and Graduate Studies has approximately \$1,158,000 in grants or contracts that is pending final decisions by such funders as the Georgia Cancer Coalition, the National Institutes of Health, the State of Georgia, and the Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, among others. In addition, the ORGS staff has been active in partnering and helping conceptualize a National Institute for Drug Abuse project with Professor Len Witt, endowed chair, in the Department of

Communication at KSU, as well as formalizing a working relationship through a joint proposal with Dr. Solomon Negash, a new faculty member in the College of Science and Mathematics, for an international conference on distance education and HIV/AIDS in East Africa. ORGS is also working with colleagues from the Burruss Institute in helping assist in geo-spatial (GIS/Geographical Information Systems) mapping. The type of research that has been or is being undertaken includes working very closely with the faculty throughout the WellStar College of College of Health and Human Services. It also consists of research in the areas of research ethics, information technology, medical and healthcare informatics, complementary and alternative therapies, quality of life, testicular cancer, breast cancer, violence prevention, mental health, HIV/AIDS, diabetes, homelessness, obesity, prenatal care, and cancer services for elderly, among others.

Dr. Akers and Ms. Rodgers have been proactive in working to assist faculty in building their research agenda, conceptualizing their research, providing statistical analysis, and proposal development. Other initiatives are underway to help obtain clinical technology to enhance the college's research infrastructure, such as working closely with Dr. Kevin Smith, M.D., medical director for the KSU Health Clinic, in securing both a bone densitometer and mammogram device for applied clinical research.

Dr. Akers reports that, while the college and university have highly qualified faculty skilled to perform sophisticated research studies for funding, further investment needs to be directed towards the acquisition of research equipment to be shared across colleges. While the equipment might serve as a research tool, it can also have clinical value as well. As a case in point is

ALUMNI ALERT

If you have been recently promoted, accepted a new position, working on an interesting project either personally or professionally please let us know.

Send notification to:

vroberts@kennesaw.edu, fax to 770-420-4461 or mail this form to: Editor, WellStar College of Health & Human Services Newsletter, Kennesaw State University, 1000 Chastain Road, #1601, Kennesaw, GA, 30144

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Major _____ Year Graduated _____

Employer _____ position _____

News Item _____

KSU biology student, Rula Osta, who was in need of a full bone density scan. She approached the Office of Research and Graduate Studies after being referred from a state public health official who was conducting an osteoporosis screening on behalf of the KSU Health Clinic. Working collaboratively, Drs. Akers and Smith were able to obtain and perform clinical services on the student's behalf, respectively.

To conclude, the Office of Research and Graduate Studies, in the WellStar College of Health and Human Services, is taking a comprehensive approach in attempting to build the college's research infrastructure. This is being done by establishing strong partnerships, securing funding for research, strengthening the capacity of faculty and students in conducting scholarship, and identifying resources for faculty in need of services, data, and refresher training.

Dr. Akers and School of Nursing faculty recently held focus groups and had conversations with students about ethics in research and the importance of research generally. Consistently, the students expressed the need for KSU to build its institutional capacity to perform research as a way to motivate students and provide a solid foundation for students who want to further their learning and pursue graduate education.

Dr. Lois Robley Acknowledged for 10 Years of Service

On the evening of September 17, 2003 the WellStar Ethics Committee held its annual retreat and dinner at the Jolley Lodge at KSU. At the retreat, Dr. Richard Cohen, chairperson, presented a tribute to Dr. Lois Robley in appreciation for years of service to the committee. Dr. Robley has helped plan the annual "Ethics Day" program for the system and has served as committee member and liaison to the academic community for more than 10 years. Dr. Robley was presented with a crystal vase with the inscription "In Appreciation" for the work done on behalf of the committee and the system's patients. The retreat was attended by more than 30 nurses, physicians, chaplains and social workers who serve on the committee as a whole and as members of call teams responsive to requests for ethics consultation by patients, families and health care professionals throughout the WellStar Health System. The retreat included reflection about past successes and a new vision for the future of the committee.



The Newest Department Chair Announced

Sandra K. Gangstead, Ph.D.

Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences

Dr. Sandy Gangstead comes to KSU from The University of Southern Mississippi where she had spent the past 13 years, eight as Director of the School of Human Performance and Recreation and four as Coordinator of the Ph.D./Ed.D. Administration and Teaching degree programs. Prior to 1990, Dr. Gangstead served a Division Head of Physical Education at Oklahoma State University for seven years. Dr. Gangstead received her Ph.D. (Physical Education & Educational Administration/Research) from the University of Utah, M.S. degree in Physical Education/Curriculum & Instruction from the University of Wyoming, and B.S. degree in Health and Physical Education/ Psychology (summa cum laude) from the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse.

Dr. Gangstead has produced more than 65 publications (research articles, chapters of books, monographs, patents/copyrighted assessment tools, and reviewed abstracts) throughout her career in academia. She has conducted 84 research and professional presentations, and served in numerous leadership positions within the American Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) umbrella at the national, district and state levels. She has received external funding for various service, educational and research projects exceeding \$542,000 in direct funding. Prior to her academic career, she spent four years as a middle school physical/health educator and high school coach (basketball, volleyball, track & field, softball) and seven years as an administrator of a residential summer camp.

Dr. Gangstead brings to KSU a wealth of research expertise across the HPERD disciplines and extensive teaching experience in research design, pedagogy, higher education administration and leadership, biomechanics/ kinesiology, and human anatomy, as well as experience administering large multi-disciplinary academic and student services units at the university level.

AIDS Walk

On Sunday, October 19th, a team of students from the Kennesaw State University WellStar School of Nursing participated in the 13th annual AIDS Walk that was held at Piedmont Park in Atlanta. The walk is a 10-kilometer fundraising walk-a-thon benefiting AID Atlanta and other local AIDS service and education providers. Team captains, Kellie Bredemann and Amanda O'Donnell, recruited 17 students from their



Community Health nursing class and the dean from the College of Health and Human Services, Dr. Richard Sowell, to participate in the walk. The students received more than \$1,000 in pledges from their peers, families, and friends. The School of Nursing donated KSU T-shirts for the team to wear.

The AIDS Walk is considered to be the largest of its kind in the Southeast. About 12,000 people took part in the walk this year and approximately \$1.1 million was raised. The money from this event will be used to provide services for the 27,000 people in Georgia who are living with HIV/AIDS and to educate our communities in an effort to prevent new HIV infections.

Human Services Is Making a Mark In the Community

The Human Services Department continues to grow in both numbers of students and faculty and in the number of our community activities. We are excited about the official opening of our new Center For Community Partnerships. The freestanding facility, located on Frey Lake Road, will become a networking and training "hub" for the local professional community.

Community Partners

The new Center of Community Partnerships already has two resident partners: the Cobb Community Service Board and the Cobb Community Collaborative. We are especially excited about hosting the crisis line for Cobb and Douglas counties. This is a 24-hour operation, so there is always some activity at the

Center. Dr. Anne Hicks-Coolick is serving as the Director and is doing a great job of getting the Center organized and energized.

Grant Initiatives

Our Department faculty has been very active in developing new work that will expand our service delivery capacity in the Northwest Crescent of Georgia and also bring in external funding to generate other creative ventures. We currently have proposals under review for a comprehensive rape prevention program, a juvenile offender substance abuse treatment program, and an abstinence-only sex education professional symposium. We are also continuing to expand our existing projects in the area of abstinence-only sex education (Cobb County Public Schools), Family Team Intervention/Wrap-Around Services (Cobb County DFCS), and Drug Free Communities (Cobb County Collaborative).

Proposed New Degree Program

Our faculty and alumni are looking forward to approval of our proposal for a clinical MSW degree program. The proposal has received strong support from KSU leadership and is now being reviewed by the Georgia Board of Regents. If the proposal is approved, we will move forward in gaining accreditation candidacy from the Council on Social Work Education. This degree will support the continued growth of our academic program. We now have more than 200 majors actively pursuing our degree and are witnessing a growing interest among lower division students.

The future for Human Services is exciting. The University, community, student, and alumni support are the hallmarks of our success. We invite you to collaborate with us and share the vision of growth and public service.

2003 KSU Distinguished Scholarship Award Recipient Announced

Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences Professor

Dr. Mitchell Collins, Professor

Special recognition goes to Dr. Mitchell Collins as the recipient of the 2003 Kennesaw State University Distinguished Scholarship Award. The award acknowledges Dr. Collins' long



standing dedication to scholarship. Dr. Collins has served on the HPS faculty at KSU since 1988. He currently serves as curriculum coordinator for the Exercise and Health Science Bachelor of Science program and Director of the Human Performance Laboratory.

Dr. Collins has been actively engaged as an exercise scientist throughout his academic career. He has authored or co-authored more than 30 publications in 15 different scientific journals as well as 40 research abstracts in journals and/or conference proceedings. He has written five books/book chapters and conducted 80 scholarly presentations at the state, regional, national and international meetings. He has received more than \$70,000 of funding to support his research efforts, and recently submitted a collaborative four-year project proposal to the National Institute of Health (NIH) for \$849,433. Dr. Collins also has demonstrated professional service and leadership in the American College of Sports Medicine as an ACSM Fellow.

He was the first KSU faculty member to go to Brazil on a research exchange with the Federal University of Santa Catarina during the Spring 2003 semester. He is actively involved in the development of an ongoing project to further the collaboration of the Department of HPS and the WCCH with the Brazilian university. The WellStar College of Health and Human Service is proud to have Dr. Mitchell Collins listed among the ranks of outstanding scholars at KSU.

University of Georgia Higher Education System's 2003 Charles McDaniel Scholarship Awarded

University of Georgia Higher Education System's 2003 Charles McDaniel Scholarship was awarded to a Allison Steinmetz, a Health and Physical Education major in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences. Steinmetz is one of only three recipients across the state's public colleges and universities to receive this honor. A junior, she resides in Marietta with her parents, John and Patricia Steinmetz. Steinmetz was also the recipient of KSU's College of Education Teacher Education Outstanding Student Award this past year. She is also enrolled in the KSU Honors Program. Above and beyond her academic achievements, Steinmetz is actively involved in her profession, volunteering her time to work with students at the Walker School in Marietta. Congratulations to Allison for bringing distinction to the HPE program, the HPS department, the WellStar College of Health and Human Services, and the University!

Visiting Scholar to Brazil

Dr. Mitchell A. Collins, Professor in the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Sport Science, traveled to Brazil last spring as a Visiting Scholar in the Center for Sports at the

Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC) in Florianópolis. Dr. Collins' 3-month trip to Brazil was in conjunction with the recently established Faculty/Student Exchange Agreement between UFSC and the WellStar College of Health and Human Services. UFSC is located in southern Brazil, and it is a relatively young institution, like KSU, that has grown to one of the largest universities in Brazil.

At UFSC, Dr. Collins worked with Drs. Markus V. Nahus and Maria de Fatima da Silva Duarte from the Research Group on Physical Activity and Health. During the visit, he had the opportunity to collaborate with numerous faculty and students on various projects related to health issues and the effectiveness of



behavioral intervention programs. The students were very enthused to have an international faculty member on campus, and the opportunity to practice their English skills. Dr. Collins had the opportunity to teach students in the graduate and undergraduate programs at UFSC in the areas of exercise physiology and resistance training exercise. Although teaching was challenging due to the language barrier, Dr. Collins worked with UFSC exercise physiologist, Dr. Rosane Rosendo da Silva, who assisted with translation to Portuguese.

Known as the island of your dreams, Florianópolis is a spectacular combination of sun, sea, and vegetation on the southern coast of Brazil, with 42 different beaches and busy resorts to small fishing communities. The visit provided a tremendous opportunity to be engaged in the Brazilian culture and language. The Brazilian people were very open and friendly, providing Dr. Collins the opportunity to become part of the family in their homes. There were opportunities to travel such as to see Iguaçu Falls and shopping in Argentina, or simply immersing in Brazilian life at the local Rodeo with the Gauchos. This was an outstanding professional and personal experience that has enriched Dr. Collins' life and has internationalized his teaching at KSU, and Dr. Collins looks forward to the opportunity to return to Brazil soon.

WellStar School of Nursing Is on the Move

The WellStar School of Nursing continues to excel. The curriculum was validated as meeting standards, the graduates performed better than the national mean, new programs were approved, and a satellite program established in north Georgia. It is with great pleasure the following exemplars are shared:

School of Nursing Earns Maximum Accreditation from CCNE and Awarded Full Approval from the Board of Nursing

In spring 2003 the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) recommended the maximum accreditation for the WellStar School of Nursing. Site visitors from the CCNE visited the KSU campus in November 2002 to review documentation compiled during a two-year self-study by the faculty and met with students, faculty, and administrators of the School of Nursing. The site visitors included interviews with Dr. Betty L. Siegel, KSU president, and Dr. Lendley Black, vice-president for academic affairs, as well as community leaders from many local healthcare institutions. Based on the results of this visit, the Undergraduate Nursing Program and the WellStar Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Program were recommended for the maximum length of accreditation possible. CCNE is a nationally recognized accrediting body active in the development of standards for nursing education in baccalaureate and higher degree nursing programs making CCNE Accreditation a significant milestone for the School of Nursing. Special recognition and thanks go to Dr. Christina Horne and Mr. Troy Spicer for their tireless efforts as the co-leaders of the faculty in the self-study and site visit processes leading to this accreditation.

The Georgia Board of Nursing also visited KSU School of Nursing in fall 2002, granting full approval of the Undergraduate Program at the Georgia Board of Nursing meeting in July. The Georgia Board of Nursing visits programs on a four-year cycle and approval is based on adherence to the Rules and Regulations of the Board and maintaining an 80% or higher average on the NCLEX licensing examination. The undergraduate program graduates have consistently maintained an average pass rate of greater than 90% for the past four years, well over the mean pass-rate both regionally and nationally.

School of Nursing Faculty Invited to Serve as CCNE Site Visitors

Three KSU School of Nursing Administrators chosen by Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) attended a training session in Alexandria, VA in June. The week culminat-

ed in an offer to Dr. David Bennett, chair of the School of Nursing; Dr. Genie Dorman, coordinator of the graduate programs in nursing; and Dr. Christina Horne, coordinator of undergraduate programs, to serve as site visitors responsible for reviewing other nursing programs for adherence to CCNE standards. They will begin service to CCNE in Spring 2004.

Dr. Horne Named New Undergraduate Coordinator for School of Nursing

Dr. Christina Horne is the new coordinator of undergraduate nursing programs. Dr. Horne has many years of experience as a nursing faculty member and has made strong contributions to the success of the Online Options Program for RN-BSN students. She has also taken a leadership role in the RN-BSN portion of the nursing program, championing improvements in the curriculum that resulted in improving the quality of life of nurses returning to complete their BSN. In addition, she was a leader in the CCNE self-study process that led to a successful visit and impressive report. Dr. Horne was appointed to this position this past summer. With her leadership, the undergraduate program will maintain its recognition as a high-quality major on the KSU campus.

Satellite Campus Opens at Floyd College in Rome, Georgia

The KSU School of Nursing Undergraduate Program was approved by the Georgia Board of Nursing to open a satellite campus for its accelerated BSN Program at Floyd College's Heritage Hall Healthcare Campus in Rome, GA. This satellite was developed in conjunction with the nursing program at Floyd College and opened its doors to students for the first time this fall. In September, 21 accelerated students were admitted to the Floyd Satellite Campus and 20 more were admitted to the KSU accelerated program. Dr. Marie Bremner takes the leadership role in the development of this program. Donna Chambers and Eileen McMahon, KSU nursing faculty members, are also teaching at the KSU-Floyd Satellite Campus. A combination of on-ground and online nursing courses will be offered to students completing the curriculum at the Floyd Satellite.

Students in the accelerated track of the undergraduate program must hold a baccalaureate degree in another field and want to transition into the field of nursing. This program allows the student to complete the BSN in 16 months, instead of the typical 30 months it takes a student to complete the traditional undergraduate program. The Georgia Board of Nursing approved the condensed accelerated curriculum plan in 2002 and the first class of 33 students graduates this December.

Center For Community Partnerships Holds Open House, Shows Off New Facility

The Center for Community Partnerships (CCP) held an Open House on October 8 to introduce the professional and university communities to the center, its facilities, staff, and partners. Resident partners, the Cobb Community Service Board and the Cobb Community Collaborative joined us in hosting this event. The Center is located at House # 58 on Frey Lake Road. The house has a conference room and large training room available to KSU faculty, currently at no charge. Interested faculty should contact Anne Hicks-Coolick, Director of the Center at ahicksco@kennesaw.edu or Manda Harley, an MPA student and the Center's research assistant at mharley313@hotmail.com.



There has been much activity in the house since the Center relocated in August. The Violence Intervention and Prevention Intervention (VIP), formerly The Center for Violence Prevention and Intervention, has an office there. The Director is Dr. Ardith Peters, supported by Joyce Redmond, a Human Services major with a great deal of corporate experience. VIP co-sponsored a domestic violence-training workshop with the Cobb County District Attorney's Victim Assistance Program on October 17. In addition, VIP currently is working with Dr. Tim Akers and the director and staff of the Cobb-Douglas Community Services Board to put together a working group to develop a grant on youth violence and mental health.

In addition, there are several exciting ongoing partnerships. The Center is working with the Hispanic Center, as well as faculty members from Human Services, Criminal Justice, History, Nursing, and Education to bring social services and education to the Mayan immigrant population in Canton, GA. The Center also has partnered with the Cobb Commission on Children and Youth and the Cobb Board of Education to implement abstinence-only sex education in the Cobb County Middle

Schools. Other partners include the Burruss Institute, The Cobb Community Foundation, DFCS, DHR, and SafePath Children's Center.

Human service community organizations often contact the Center with various needs, such as help with grant writing, program development, and request for workshops, among others. When necessary the Center would like to refer these community members to KSU faculty with the needed expertise. Faculty members at the Center for Community Partnerships want not only to partner with the larger community, but also to partner with you, our colleagues. You may be contacted next!

KSU Employees Are Walking Their Way to 10K A Day!

The Center for Health Promotion and Wellness has implemented a program that gets everyone moving. In effect since October 6, 10K-A-Day is a walking program where KSU employees set goals to walk 10,000 steps per day--equivalent of walking about five miles.

It is designed to motivate participants to reach that level on most days of the week, regardless of current activity. Several studies have shown significant health benefits of 10,000 steps a day. Regular, brisk walking has been found to lower the risk of heart attack, stroke, and diabetes. On average, people take around 2,000 to 4,000 steps each day. 10K-A-Day works because it is a measurable, achievable goal everyone can work toward.

KSU employees who registered for the program received a pedometer and log sheets to record their steps for the eight-week program. Almost 200 employees registered. A one-mile



From Admissions, L to R, Marilyn Davis and Lil Hu

walk kick off party was held on October 7th on the Campus Green that started everyone off on the right foot. Participants kept logs that were turned in biweekly to the Center for Health Promotion and Wellness. Participants received incentives and helpful materials, along the way on how to find an ideal walking route, avoid blisters, shop for a good walking shoe, and more. Participants who completed the walking program received a t-shirt at the program finale party, stating they walked their way to 10K-A-Day!

Board Approves New MSN Degree

The University System of Georgia Board of Regents recently approved a new master's of science in nursing degree program for Kennesaw State University's WellStar College of Health and Human Services. The program, an MSN in Advanced Care Management and Leadership, will prepare experienced professional nurses to practice in a variety of leadership positions within the healthcare field.

"This program will provide many highly qualified nurses already employed in KSU's target area the means to achieve an advanced degree that will enhance their careers in the hospital setting," said Dr. Genie E. Dorman, professor and coordinator of graduate nursing programs at Kennesaw State.

Courses in the program will focus on clinical leadership, ethics, health policy, finance and budgeting, information technology, conflict management, organizational effectiveness, resource allocation and best practices in the healthcare setting. Students may also choose clinical practicum experiences that will prepare them to sit for national certification as clinical nurse specialists in medical surgical nursing.

The program delivery format is designed to accommodate the working professional nurse, with all classes scheduled on alternate weekends, supplemented by extensive online offerings. This delivery format will allow students to complete the program while meeting ongoing career obligations.

The first class of 10 students will begin in Fall 2004 and complete the program in four semesters. Graduates of the MSN in Advanced Care Management and Leadership program will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the following:

- a variety of ethical systems, the importance of ethics in healthcare and the ability to infuse them into the organizational culture;
- the ability to anticipate, recognize and resolve organizational problems in responsible and ethical ways;
- an understanding of and a commitment to human resource management within a healthcare organization;
- the skills needed to oversee budgets and participate in financial planning;
- the ability to evaluate, utilize and conduct various types of research;
- the ability to provide culturally competent, age-specific care to diverse clients based on a strong theoretical and research foundation, thereby improving healthcare delivery and client outcomes; and
- the demonstration of leadership in roles as divergent as clinician, educator, advocate and manager.

New Course Set for 2004 Diabetes Education Certification

The continuing education initiative of the WellStar College of Health and Human Services has a new course available to advance the professional development of healthcare professionals interested in diabetic education. This course will begin the educational preparation for diabetic certification for registered nurses, registered dietitians, social workers, pharmacists, and physicians. After successful completion of the course, both classroom and online, the participants will receive a certificate of completion. Participants will be encouraged to sit for the CDE certification exam as soon as available.

The first course will be offered January 8-10, 2004. The course will be composed of a classroom didactic section, followed by online learning, support, and mentoring, culminating in a clinical preceptorship opportunity. The classroom component of the course will consist of 16 hours of didactic teaching. The online component will consist of a 5-month or 80 contact hours of interactive sessions, using case study scenarios that enable the students to apply principles to practice. Evaluating web resources and participating in free diabetes CE programs available on the web will further encourage learning. Testing opportunities for the participant to prepare for the CDE examination will be administered each month. The final component is the clinical opportunity via a 40-hour clinical preceptorship with a diabetes education provider near their home area. KSU will arrange the preceptorship experience with healthcare facilities providing diabetes education.

For additional information or a brochure on the program, call 770-420-4361. Registration for the course is managed by the Department of Continuing Education at 770-423-6765. The cost of the entire course is \$390. Handouts will be provided, however, participants will need to purchase the course textbook.

ALUMNI NEWS

Linda Postell (HPS) class of 1993 and David Worrall (HPS) class of 2001 were named the Cobb County Health Educator and Intramural Director of the Year-2003, respectively. Both teach at Hightower Trail Middle School.

Publications

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Nahas, M.V., Goldfine, B. and Collins, M.A. (2003). Determinants of physical activity in adolescents and young adults: the basis for high school and college physical education to promote active lifestyles. *The Physical Educator*, 60(1):42-56.

Sowell, R. L. (2003). An Invitation to Share (editorial). *Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care*, 14 (3), 13-14.

Sowell, R.L. (2003). Revised HIV Prevention Strategy: New Hope or Smoke Screen (editorial). *Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care*, 14 (5), 21-21.

Presentations

Bairan, A., Smith, K. & Newsome, G. (2003, Feb.). Knowledge and use of herbal and nutritional supplements among university faculty, staff, and students. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Georgia League for Nursing, Columbus, GA.

Bairan, A. & Smith, K. (2003, July). Hormone replacement therapy for postmenopausal women: How did the Women's Health Initiative findings affect women using HRT? Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, Reno, NV.

Bairan, A. & Smith, K. (2003, Oct.). Hormone replacement therapy for postmenopausal women: How did the Women's Health Initiative findings affect women using HRT? Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health, Savannah, GA.

Camann, Mary Ann. To Your Health: A health promotion program for persons with mental illness and staff. *International Association of Psychosocial Rehabilitation*, May 2003.

Holtz, Carol. Pregnant Hispanic women's barriers/facilitators to prenatal care in Cobb County, GA. To: Georgia Nurses Association in April 2003 in Columbus, GA (poster).

Lanier, A. B., Collins, M. A., Goldfine, B., Beck, J. and Nahas, M.V. Exercise confidence and profiles of urban university students. *Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise* 2003; 34(5): Supplement (Abstract).

Sowell, Richard. Writing for Publication: Tips for writing the manuscript (Editors Panel) Emory School of Nursing Regional Doctoral Conference, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, June 20, 2003.

Roberts, Vanice. Returning to Clinical Practice. Nurse Appreciation Week. Georgia Nurses Association, August, 2003.

Roberts, Vanice. Returning to Clinical Practice via an Online or OnGround Refresher Course. Atlanta Journal-Constitution Job Fair. World Congress Center. October, 2003.

Research Initiatives

J.L. Juncos, Principal Investigator, C.J. Hass, Co-Investigator, M.A. Collins, Co-Investigator. Creatine monohydrate supplementation in Parkinson's disease. Collaborative project with the Emory University School of Medicine. Funded by the Emory Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine in Neurodegenerative Disorders, Atlanta, GA. 2003.

Funded Grants:

Long, Janice and Hart, Trica

Initiative for Diabetes Educational Advancement for Latinos (Project IDEAL) The grant involves Hispanic groups in metro Atlanta (Puerto Rican, Guatemalan (Mayan), Colombian, and Mexican) who have a diagnosis (or potential for) diabetes types I and II. Funded for \$200,000.

Submitted Grants

Holtz, Carol. Pregnant Hispanic Women's Barriers/Facilitators to Prenatal Care in Cobb County, GA. NIH Amount: \$100,000. Not funded.

P.B. Sparling, Principal Investigator, M.A. Collins, Co-Investigator and J. Rupp, Co-Investigator. Lifestyle physical education for college women at risk for early CHD. Amount: \$879,433; Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, Bethesda, MD. 2003. Not funded.

Johnson, P.H., Akers, T., & Taylor, G.A. 2003. Impact of Complementary and Alternative Therapies on Self-Reported Quality of Life and Clinical Outcomes among Breast Cancer Patients in Metropolitan Atlanta. Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Amount applied for: \$249,973.52. Total Project Cost: \$423,158.72. (Status: In Review.)

Johnson, P.H., Bairan, A., Hillman, S. & Akers, T. 2003. The impact of complementary and alternative therapies on self-reported and clinical outcomes among cancer patients in the northwest region of Georgia. In Regional Program of Excellence Application. Northwest Crescent Cancer Coalition, Inc.: Marietta, GA. Amount applied for: \$240,900.00. (Status: In Review.)

Special funding

Visiting Scholar in the Centro de Desportos, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Florianópolis, SC, Brazil. Amount: \$3500; Source: Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPQ); 2003.

Akers, T.A. (2003). Supplemental Grant Funding for Project IDEAL, Bristol-Myers Squibb (\$7500).

Awards

School of Nursing faculty member, Dr. Mary Ann Camann, received an award in June for service by The Board of Directors of Community Friendship, Inc. in appreciation of compassion, dedication, and generosity for work with the rehabilitation programs of CFI and development of wellness resources and program.

COMMENTS

If you have any comments or suggestions for our newsletter, please let us know.

Send to:

vroberts@kennesaw.edu, fax to 770-420-4461 or mail this form to: Editor, WellStar College of Health & Human Services Newsletter, Kennesaw State University, 1000 Chastain Road, #1601, Kennesaw, GA. 30144

Kathie Aduddell, RN, Ed.D
Associate Professor of Nursing

Dr. Kathie Aduddell comes to KSU from Victoria College in Victoria, Texas. She has a strong background in child-health nursing with graduate study in institutional management and has taught at Radford University and the University of Texas-Arlington. Dr. Aduddell brings to KSU many years of nursing education and administration experience. She also has experience as the Director of Health Services at Fullerton College in Fullerton, California.

Barbara J. Blake, PhD, RN
Associate Professor of Nursing

Dr. Barbara Blake comes to KSU from the Parkland Health and Hospital System in Dallas, Texas, where she was project director for the Texas/Oklahoma AIDS Education and Training Center. Dr. Blake was also an adjunct assistant clinical professor of nursing at the University of Texas at Arlington and an adjunct instructor of internal medicine at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. A graduate of Texas Women's University, she has worked in community and public health nursing for many years.

Donna M. Chambers, RN, MS, FNP-C
Assistant Professor of Nursing

Donna Chambers comes to KSU from the Medical College of Georgia where she worked as an instructor of nursing. She has maintained a clinical practice as a coronary care/intensive care nurse at Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta. Ms. Chambers has also worked as a volunteer in a health mission in Montego Bay, Jamaica every fall for the past seven years. Ms. Chambers is a graduate of Georgia State University and the University of Colorado.

Andrea F. Knopp, RN, MSN, MPH, FNP-C
Assistant Professor of Nursing

Andrea Knopp is an experienced nurse practitioner who joins the KSU faculty after working in a private internal medicine practice in the community. Ms. Knopp will be directing the Center for Community Healthcare and teaching in the WellStar Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Program. She has dual masters in nursing and public health from Emory University and has worked with Mercy Mobile Health Care and AID Atlanta.

Jamie C. Lee, MS, RN, CS
Temporary Instructor of Nursing

Jamie Lee is a graduate of KSU's Associate Degree Nursing Program who completed her BSN and MSN at Georgia State University in Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing. She is certified as a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing and maintains her practice in this area on a limited basis. Ms. Lee has worked at KSU as a clinical instructor since 2000.

Eileen McMahon, RN, MS, CANP
Lecturer in Nursing

Eileen McMahon is an experienced nurse practitioner who joins the KSU faculty after practicing in a geriatric medical practice. She also has practiced as an Adult Nurse Practitioner in the Department of Family Practice at Wayne State University and was a nursing instructor at Madonna University in Michigan. Ms. McMahon taught at KSU last year as a temporary faculty member in Spring Semester 2003.

Cynthia Ratchford, MSW, PhD
Assistant Professor of Social Work

Dr. Cynthia Ratchford comes to KSU from Clark-Atlanta University in Atlanta. She has a strong background in baccalaureate social work education, mental health practice, and developmental disabilities. She also has taught at Lincoln University and Talladega College. Her extensive experience as a clinical social worker will be essential in our proposed MSW program.

Kandace M. Johnson, PhD, MS
Assistant Professor of Health Physical
Education and Sport Science

Dr. Kandace Johnson comes to KSU from Towson University where she was an assistant professor of Health Science for four years. Upon completion of her Ph.D. in Human Performance/School Health Education and Human Sexuality at Indiana University, she served as visiting lecturer of Applied Health Science for one year at IU. She received her M.S. in Health Science/Public Health Education and B.S. in Health Science Education at the University of Florida. Dr. Johnson brings with her a wealth of research expertise in school and college health education, as well as teaching experience in health statistics and research methodology, women's health, violence prevention, health behavior and promotion, human sexuality and school health pedagogy.