



REACHING OUT: Focusing on the Health Care of our Communities

Hands-on experience: Senior nursing student Jessica Golden tends to a young community member during a rotation for her community health nursing class.

Over the past quarter-century, nurse practitioners have emerged as a driving force in meeting the nation's need for access-to-care. Faculty members and students from the College of Nursing are working to fill this void by providing quality primary care for north central Florida's rural, underserved populations.

Through clinical affiliations, partnerships and the College's faculty practice initiatives, faculty members and students provide services to underserved patients and model the most current practice approaches. The College of Nursing recently dedicated a new facility for Archer Family Health Care, a College-owned comprehensive nurse-managed health center in Archer, Fla. The practice moved to an expanded facility in downtown Archer that triples its patient-care space.

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Leaving a Lasting Mark on the Archer Community

What is now a nationally recognized nurse-managed health center began in a small renovated house in rural Archer in 2001. The Archer Family Health Care clinic, operated by students and faculty members from the College of Nursing, College of Pharmacy and College of Medicine, now provides more than 3,000 visits per year to underserved patients.

Featured speakers at the dedication included Paula DeLaney, chair of the Alachua County Board of Commissioners; Sam Clarke, vice mayor of the city of Archer; Kathleen Long, dean of UF's College of Nursing; and Russ Armistead from the Office of the UF Senior Vice President-Health Affairs. An open house and tours followed the dedication.

About 85 percent of the clinic's patient population earns below 200 percent of the federal poverty level, and more than half do not have health insurance, said M. Dee Williams, PhD, RN, Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs in the College of Nursing. Patients travel from all corners of Alachua County and six surrounding counties for treatment.

"As part of the University of Florida, we have three missions: education, service and research," Dr. Williams said. "Here we are combining two – education and service."

The clinic also serves as a clinical teaching site for more than 75 nursing and pharmacy students each year.

"Archer Family Health Care demonstrates the effectiveness of nurse-managed health care, teaches students about interdisciplinary care delivery, and makes real our commitment to assist underserved families and individuals."

Dr. Williams said she hopes more students will choose careers working in rural areas or with indigent patients.

"It is our hope and belief that we have worked with the Archer area community to improve the quality of life for the citizens we touch. And our patients – oh, they're so grateful"

The work of the clinic is made possible by funding through state and local sources such as the Florida Legislature, the Alachua County and Archer City Commissions and Area Health Education Center (AHEC). Private donors also have been an instrumental part of Archer Family Health Care. Gifts from John Pettengill, the Maren Foundation and from Archer native, Melvin Lauderdale, will be critically important in ensuring that the clinic can continue its service and education missions far into the future.

Real Life Classrooms Meet Needs

Faculty members provide health care services to a variety of patients, from neonates to elders, through faculty practice. In 1998, the College became the first Florida college of nursing to incorporate as a nonprofit Faculty Practice Association. The Association provides structure to the College's service mission and education and research missions as well.

Most of the settings in which faculty members practice focus on rural and underserved populations. Patients include those with chronic illnesses such as HIV/AIDS, pregnant women, cancer patients, patients with chronic back pain, families, children, psychiatric/mental health patients, and pediatric trauma patients.

"Faculty members usually have students with them at their practice sites, and this provides the students with valuable learning experiences," Dr.

Williams said. "Practicing faculty members are better teachers because of the currency of their practices and they are able to maintain national certification requirements."

Agencies with which the College partners include the Maternal-Infant Care Clinic in Reddick; the UF Shands

Eastside Community Practice in Gainesville, WellFlorida Council's HIV/AIDS clinics throughout north central Florida; and the UF College of Medicine's Division of Neonatology.

The College has maintained a mutually beneficial relationship with the Alachua County Organization for Rural Needs (ACORN) Clinic, a nationally recognized program that has provided low-cost medical and dental care to residents of Alachua, Bradford and Union counties in North Central Florida for more than 30 years. In fact, it was College of Nursing faculty members and students who participated in the initial development of the clinic.

For the Love of Community

Providing health care and partnering with the community is emphasized in the College's community health courses. As a community health nursing professor, Joan Castleman, MS, RN, maintains connections and builds bridges between UF and the surrounding community. She has established a network of relationships with partners such as Alachua County Schools, Elder Care, the Gainesville Housing Authority, and the Gainesville Black on Black Crime Task Force.



Top Photo: Family nurse practitioner and Clinical Assistant Professor Susan Schaffer welcomes visitors to one of the new patient rooms at Archer Family Health Care. Bottom Photo: Dean Kathleen Ann Long welcomes guests to the Archer Family Health Care dedication ceremony.

“It is our hope and belief that we have been able to work with the Archer area community to improve the quality of life for the citizens we touch. And our patients – oh, they’re so grateful”

“Students are usually assigned a community group, such as a school or housing project, with whom they will work throughout the semester,” Castleman said. “They must assess their assigned community and develop appropriate health promotion or disease prevention activities.”

These activities could range from organizing a wellness program at a subsidized housing facility for older adults and people with disabilities to visiting the St. Francis House for the homeless to provide health care screenings and health education. In 2006 alone, community health nursing students provided more than 15,000 hours of service to the local community.

“We spend a great deal of time developing and maintaining relationships with community partners,” Castleman said. “We are guests in these communities. There is always a tendency for outside professionals to tell communities what is wrong and offer solutions. Our goal is for students to learn how to partner nonjudgmentally with community members and jointly identify community strengths, weaknesses and possible solutions.”



(L-R) Ms. Tillie Davis, Archer Family Health Care Citizens Advisory Group; Dr. Dee Williams, Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs; and Ms. Lucy Rim, Archer Family Health Care Patient helped to cut the official ribbon for the new AFHC facility.

PRIVATE GIFTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

John Pettengill’s gift established the Health Care for All Fund to benefit faculty practice endeavors and student experiences in rural and underserved communities, including Archer Family Health Care. His mother, Iona M. Pettengill, was a public health nurse and College of Nursing alumna. John and his family felt it was important to honor his mother’s passion and work.

The Thomas H. Maren, MD Foundation honors the late Dr. Thomas H. Maren, a founding faculty member of the UF College of Medicine. The Maren Foundation endowed funds to support nursing education and health care for the Archer community. This endowment further enhances the Health Care for All Fund. Archer Family Health Care’s reception area was named the Thomas H. Maren MD Reception Area.

Melvin V. Lauderdale’s family established roots in the Archer area in 1900. Melvin worked closely with the College of Nursing to secure land for Archer Family Health Care’s new facility. His generous contributions of financial support and time were critical to the successful expansion of health care services to Archer area residents. The Rubye Venable McNair Conference Room is named in honor of Melvin’s grandmother.

Recently I had one of those privileged moments that come to fortunate deans occasionally. I officiated at the dedication of the College’s new, expanded Archer Family Health Care. This is our nurse-managed, interdisciplinary primary care clinic that offers exceptional learning experiences for our graduate and undergraduate students while providing high quality health care for an underserved rural community.

I noted at the dedication ceremony that the College’s faculty members and students have actually been providing services in Archer, Florida for over 35 years through community health activities. When we dedicated Archer’s new primary care facility this past October, we celebrated not only the growth of our practice, but more importantly the strengthening of a valued partnership with Archer area residents. Most of the patients seen in Archer have limited incomes and no health insurance—yet many of them have been active partners with us in securing the local, state, federal and private dollars needed for services.

Our dedication ceremony included the recognition of donors who have envisioned with us the future of Archer Family Health Care and who through their generous gifts, helped to make the expanded clinic a reality. Gifts from John Pettengill, the Maren Foundation and from Archer native, Melvin Lauderdale, will be critically important in ensuring that the clinic can continue its service and education missions far into the future.

Archer Family Health Care demonstrates the effectiveness of nurse-managed health care, and it teaches students about the value of interdisciplinary care delivery. It also makes real the commitment of our faculty to assist those who need health care but cannot afford it. Being at the dedication event made visible to me the wisdom, energy, perseverance and compassion of Gator Nurses!



KATHLEEN ANN LONG
PHD, RN, FAAN

Kathleen Ann Long

UF-VA Partnership Expands Nursing Class Size, Adds Faculty

UF College of Nursing selected as one of four nationwide to participate in VA Nursing Academy

The University of Florida College of Nursing has expanded its class size and will add faculty members through a new partnership with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs designed to address the nation's severe nursing shortage.

UF was one of four universities the VA recently selected to form the VA Nursing Academy, a five-year, \$40-million pilot initiative. The VA-UF partnership – which has allowed UF to expand nursing enrollment in its baccalaureate program by 28 students this semester and to add 10 more nursing students in its accelerated bachelor's degree program beginning next May – links the College of Nursing with the nursing service at the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System to form the VA-UF Nursing Center of Excellence.

The partnership also will fund new faculty, who will give students more opportunities to gain clinical experience at the VA. In the first year of the partnership, five new faculty members will come

system that we were chosen to be part of a select group nationwide to take part in this initiative. We are building on a long and positive history of collaboration across our institutions.”

The new faculty members will be embedded in four model nursing units at local VA hospitals. The program



professor and department chair in the College of Nursing.

Data will be collected before and after these model units are implemented to measure patient and nurse satisfaction, educational outcomes, student and faculty satisfaction, and other factors. Increases in recruitment and retention of baccalaureate-prepared nurses in North Florida's VA health system will also be evaluated.

The partnership also will create an advanced residency program to support new graduates during the transition to professional practice and an internship program aimed at improving recruitment and retention of new graduates.

In addition, UF faculty members and their VA counterparts will implement a skin and wound healing education and research program and a peri-operative and intensive care clinical and research program.

“I believe the VA selected us based on the comprehensiveness of our plan, which included not only the VA-UF partnership but also establishing the first Nursing Center of Excellence in the VA,” said Maude Rittman, PhD, RN, VA director and chief nurse for research at the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System. “Our nurses will definitely benefit from the expertise of the UF faculty, and we anticipate that the evidence-based practice projects will greatly enhance our clinical practice and patient care.”

To address the ever-growing nursing faculty shortage, a faculty development program will be provided for those nurses hired to be joint UF and VA faculty members. These faculty members will be assigned a UF faculty mentor. VA staff nurses also will have the opportunity to participate in the college's nursing resource center, assisting with the teaching of clinical skills to help meet the learning needs of the additional students.

“It is our hope that through this partnership, we can not only increase the number of baccalaureate-prepared nurses and enhance their educational experiences but also improve nursing work environments as well as achieve the ultimate goal of a higher level of patient care.” —Maxine Hinze, PhD, RN

on board, two UF-based, two VA-based and one who will serve as an evidence-based practice nurse coordinator.

The program's goals include increasing nursing educational opportunities, enhancing clinical activities, promoting nurse recruitment and retention, improving nursing practice environments and ultimately improving patient care.

“We are very excited to be able to partner with a major health-care system such as the VA to address vital nursing and health-care issues,” said Kathleen Ann Long, PhD, RN, dean of the UF College of Nursing. “It is a testament to our College of Nursing and our local VA

will develop and evaluate these innovative nursing units, which will provide evidence-based nursing care for patients while implementing clinical supervision for nursing students and encouraging staff development to boost recruitment and retention of nurses.

“It is our hope that through this partnership, we can not only increase the number of baccalaureate-prepared nurses and enhance their educational experiences but also improve nursing work environments as well as achieve the ultimate goal of a higher level of patient care,” said Maxine Hinze, PhD, RN, co-director of the VA-UF Nursing Center of Excellence who is an assistant



UF Administrator Named President of Florida Nurses Association



Gregg

University of Florida College of Nursing administrator Andrea Gregg, DSN, RN, has been elected president of the Florida Nurses Association. Gregg, an associate professor, is director of the College of Nursing's Jacksonville campus.

The Florida Nurses Association is a constituent of the American Nurses Association and the only organization representing more than 200,000 nurses in Florida regardless of specialty or practice area.

Dr. Gregg, who has practiced as a registered nurse for 35

years both in clinical and administrative roles, has served as an elected officer on numerous professional and community boards, including the Florida Nurses Foundation, the Florida League for Nursing and the Child Guidance Center. She is the past chairwoman of the Florida Center for Nursing and continues to sit on the center's board of directors. She has worked closely with other state organizations to lobby the legislature for increased funding for nursing workforce solutions and nursing education.

Dr. Gregg was appointed director of the college's Jacksonville campus in 1995. She has worked collaboratively to establish and maintain a distance-learning program, enabling graduate nurses to attend classes and complete courses in Jacksonville.

accomplishments in brief

Clinical Assistant Professor Allison McAlhany and Assistant Professor Debbie Popovich recently had their article "Hirschsprung disease" published in *Newborn & Infant Nursing Reviews*. They were also published in *Pediatric Nursing* for the article titled "Accurately Diagnosing Commonly Misdiagnosed Circular Rashes."

College of Nursing Librarian **Pam Sherwill** has recently published her article "Magnet Hospitals/Magnetic Libraries – The Hospital Medical Library: A Resource for Achieving Magnet Status" in the *Journal of Hospital Librarianship*.

Clinical Assistant Professor Dr. Susan Schaffer recently had her article, "Measuring Asthma Self-Management Knowledge in Adults," published in *The Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners*.

Assistant Professor Dr. Dinah Welch's abstract "Residential Inequalities Impact Women's Health" was selected as one of the eight plenary podium presentations for the SNRS research conference in the spring.

Assistant Professor Dr. Jeanne-Marie R. Stacciarini was recently appointed as Affiliate Faculty of the Center for Latin American Studies/UF. She has also been recommended for Graduate Faculty Status in the Center.

Mollie O'Neil, a recent College of Nursing CNL graduate, had her poster abstract "Implementation of Innovative Staffing Model to Incorporate the Clinical Nurse Leader Role and Improve Patient Outcomes" accepted by the American Nurses Association (ANA).

Assistant Professor Dr. Charlene Krueger recently had her grant funded by the National Science Foundation. Her project, "Learning and Memory Across the Fetal-to-Early Newborn Period," was funded for over \$330,000 for 3 years.

Assistant Professor Dr. Alice Poe had her paper, "Educating Midwives: Blending care in Poland and the US," accepted for presentation at the International Congress of Midwives in Glasgow in June 2008.

Associate Professor Dr. Sharleen Simpson was recently appointed by the Provost to the UF Graduate Council.

Clinical Assistant Professor Jane Gannon and Department Chair Dr. Maxine Hinze recently became nationally certified Clinical Nurse Leaders.

Assistant Professor Linda Sigsby had her newest publication, "Realistic use of the Perioperative Nursing Data Set (PNDS) in academic nursing," published in the September issue of *Perioperative Nursing Clinics*. She will also present her activities with the AORN task force at the Annual AORN Congress in March 2008.

Assistant Professor Dr. Lori Thomas recently had her work on caring for elderly patients with COPD featured in the May *Advance for Nurses* website and journal. Her manuscript on "Effective dyspnea management strategies identified by elders with end-stage COPD" was accepted in *Applied Nursing Research*.

Associate Professor Dr. Meredith Rowe was invited to contribute her work with wan-

dering and older adult to the series of papers in The Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing's "Try This: Best Practices in Nursing Care to Older Adults." Dr. Rowe will also be presenting at the "Assisted Cognition Workshop" held at the University of Rochester.

Clinical Assistant Professor Sharon Bradley recently had her manuscript, "Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease: Guiding Patients to Credible Internet Resources," accepted to the *MEDSURG Nursing, The Journal of Adult Health*.

Assistant Professor Dr. Sunny Yoon published her review article on complementary and alternative medicine among older adults in the U.S. in the Korean Journal of *Perspectives in Nursing*.

Assistant Professor Dr. Brian Weber had his NIH protocol on "Dyadic Support for Men with Prostate Cancer" included in the RTIPS Web site.

Annabel Davis Jenks Endowed Professor Dr. Beverly Robert's research on low-impact exercise (tai chi) with elders was discussed in the Summer 2007 edition of *The Continuum*. **Drs. Jim Jessup and Lori Thomas** also worked on the project.

Drs. Carmen Rodriguez, Meredith Rowe, and Lori Thomas recently submitted STTR proposal, "Technology to Assist Speechless Patients' Communication with Hospital Staff," to NIH and received a score of 172.

Infection Control Nurse Finds Public Health Nursing Master's Degree the Right Fit

Joann Andrews is a true believer in education, which is evident in her desire to go back to school after 17 years in the nursing field, to obtain her master's degree in public health nursing from the UF College of Nursing.

"I love the program; I get excited when they post a new assignment," Andrews said.

Now serving as the Certified Infection Control Practitioner in the Epidemiology and Infection Control department of Lee Memorial Regional Health System, Andrews always knew she wanted to pursue a master's degree. She earned her two-year nursing degree from Edison Community College and her BSN from Florida Gulf Coast University. When she heard about the UF public health nursing master's degree, it seemed like the right fit.

"I think like a Public Health Nurse," said Andrews.

Andrew's career has taken her through various nursing roles all within the same organization, Lee Memorial. She first worked as a bedside nurse in a surgical progressive care unit. But it was working the night shift as a staff nurse in the emergency department that taught her the most valuable lessons. Andrews believes that seeing the life-changing events that take place within the emergency room has shown her the importance of health prevention and promotion.

As an infection control practitioner she uses the guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control to work with patients, families, and staff members and educate them on the importance of keeping the environment clean and free of diseases. Her interest in public health stemmed from her current position because infection control is "the center of the universe and everyone relies on infection control to keep them safe," Andrews said.

Andrews views her position as one in promoting public health within the hospital community—vital to keeping both patients and



Public Health Nursing master's student Joann Andrews gives a flu shot to a physician at Lee Memorial Health System, where she serves as the Certified Infection Control Practitioner.

staff members healthy. Her initiatives can include surprise hand washing screenings on all clinicians to ensure that proper hand washing techniques are used or working on having at least 70 per cent of Lee Memorial staff members vaccinated with the flu shot.

Since the public health nursing master's degree is offered primarily online, it has allowed Andrews to continue to work and stay at home while pursuing her degree.

Although she is not sure what the future will hold after graduating with her Public Health Nursing degree, Andrews is happy to have the opportunity to learn and grow from the program and apply her new knowledge to her career. She anticipates moving into a higher management position as a result.

Andrews also is happy to have finally joined the Gator community, as her son, Evan, graduated from UF with a history degree and her daughter, Alana, is a sophomore working on her prerequisites to apply to the College of Nursing. Not only does Andrews promote and encourage health in her workplace, she also instills it within herself, which is evident with her recent first place awards in three body building competitions.

For more information on the UF Public Health Nursing Master's degree, contact Barbara Battin Little at (941) 961-7042 or email bblittle@ufl.edu



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College Forms Gator Nurse Ambassador Program



(L-R) Gator Nurse Ambassadors Jessica Wild, Courtney Hart and Jenn Kuretski greet guests at the College of Nursing Reunion Reception.

The College has formed the Gator Nurse Ambassador Program (GNAP). GNAP is comprised of student ambassadors whose primary role will be to assist the College of Nursing, the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs, and the Office of Academic and Student Affairs in the following tasks and events:

- ◆ Participate in recruitment programs for the College when needed
- ◆ Host current and potential donors and prominent leaders in healthcare that visit
- ◆ Conduct College tours
- ◆ Work with the Office of Alumni Affairs and the Office of Academic and Student Affairs on special events, such as Career Fair, Annual Pinning Ceremony, Commencement, Reunion and the Dorothy M. Smith Leadership Conference.
- ◆ Other areas as deemed necessary

Ambassadors will serve as the College's premier student liaisons. They will interface with students currently enrolled in the College's programs as well as prospective students. This will afford these select students the opportunity to engage in outreach activities sponsored by the College, healthcare delivery partners, and the local community at-large. All ambassadors are advised by the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs and coordinated by the Associate Director of Alumni Affairs.

All students were encouraged to apply. There will be another open application period in the spring, and then on a yearly basis in the fall.

If you have any questions about the Gator Nurse Ambassador Program, please feel free to contact Anna Miller at aemiller@ufl.edu, or (352) 273-6360.

The students who were chosen went through an application and interview process before being selected as the first members of the program. The students who were selected are as follows:

Catrice Ackerman, Senior BSN student
Allison Cook, RN to BSN student
Courtney Flatau, Junior BSN student
Courtney Hart, Senior BSN student
Blair Hebner, Junior BSN student
Jillian Krickovich, Junior BSN student
Jenn Kuretski, Senior BSN student
Andrea Pe Benito, Senior BSN student
Katelyn Srnka, Junior BSN student
Jessica Wild, MSN student
Casey Vera, Junior BSN student

Nursing Researcher to Study Depression in Latina Women



University of Florida College of Nursing assistant professor Jeanne Marie Stacciarini, PhD, RN, has received a \$202,113 supplementary grant from the National Institutes of Health to study depression in Latinas and promote diversity in health-related research.

The supplement was awarded under the NIH study associate professor Shawn Kneipp, PhD, ARNP, is conducting to determine ways of reducing women's health disparities through an approach called community-based participatory research, or CBPR.

Dr. Stacciarini's preliminary findings revealed that unique health beliefs, strong community values, languages barriers and dependency on men make it difficult for Latina women who are depressed to be properly identified. These factors also impair their ability to receive culturally appropriate treatment, leaving many women incapable of taking care of themselves

and their families. Depression in the Latina community is fairly common but is often left untreated, she said.

As part of her new research, Dr. Stacciarini will collaborate with researchers and community representatives from central and north central Florida.

Her long-range goal is to develop an effective community-based, culturally appropriate intervention to treat depression in Latinas, consistent with the related goals of Healthy People 2010 and NIH's Strategic Plan for Reducing Health Disparities. This will include helping depressed Latina women access treatment.

In the first year of the two-year grant, Dr. Stacciarini will work with Kneipp and her research team to learn more about CBPR and make research connections in the community.

In the second year, Dr. Stacciarini will conduct a pilot study to learn more about mental health services for Latina women in Alachua County, determine cultural barriers to treatment and examine possible community-based approaches to intervention.

College of Nursing Reunion Weekend Lets **REDISCOVER, RECONNECT**

It was a busy and exciting College of Nursing Reunion weekend for the many alums and friends who came back to campus! It started off with our open house and tours guided by our newly named student ambassadors. That evening, a cocktail reception at the Florida Museum of Natural History allowed guests to catch up with old classmates and faculty and walk around and explore the museum. Silent auction bidding began on Friday night and ended on Saturday morning at the tailgate event. Over \$1,500 was raised from the auction, and all proceeds will go to the Alumni Council Book Awards. After everyone relaxed at the tailgate, they enjoyed watching the Gators STOMP Vandy! What a way to end the day!

Look for information for next year's Reunion date after the first of the year. We enjoyed having everyone there and hope to see all of you again and then some!



(Clockwise from top left): Doris Harrigan (BSN 1982) and children Peter, Meg and Carl; Karika Oden (BSN 2001) and friend James White; BarBee Geiger (BSN 1974) and husband Chuck; Popular items for bid at the silent auction; Amanda Daniels (BSN 2002, MSN 2003), husband Toby and daughter Rae Lynn; Nancy Cross Hamilton (BSN 1964, MSN 1966); Associate Professor Dr. Jo Snider, Professor Emeritus Dr. Myrna Courage and Dr. Linda Moody (BSN 1965, MSN 1969); Dr. Linda Aiken (BSN 1964, MSN 1966).

Gator Nurse Alums & REIGNITE!



College of Nursing Hosts First Annual Rita Kobb Lectureship in Honor of Alumna



Rita Kobb is pictured with her husband Steve at the First Annual Rita Kobb Lectureship in Nursing Informatics and Technology.

In honor of a loyal and esteemed Gator Nurse alumna, the first annual Rita Kobb Lectureship in Nursing Informatics and Technology took place Friday, October 26.

This lectureship featured keynote speaker Susan Dimmick, PhD, Adjunct Associate Professor, University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Medicine, Department of Preventive Medicine. Dr. Dimmick's topic was "From Patient to Partner: How Technology is Transforming Healthcare" and she discussed how current and future technologies are used to deliver a continuum of care across the entire life cycle, how a patient becomes a partner in healthcare, and how technology can help to connect care in a community. Dr. Dimmick is the co-author of the book *Home Telehealth: Connecting Care Within the Community*.



(L-R) Rita Kobb, Keynote lecturer Dr. Susan Dimmick, and Dean Kathleen Ann Long.

The lectureship is named in honor of Kobb, Education Program Specialist at the Veterans Health Administration Office of Care Coordination and the Director of VISN 8 Sunshine Training Center of Care Coordination and Telehealth with the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System. Ms. Kobb specializes in Care Coordination/Care Management, Home Telehealth Consulting, and Gerontological Nursing and has been involved in over 65 publications and creative works.



**COLLEGE OF NURSING
FLORIDA TOMORROW CAMPAIGN GOALS**

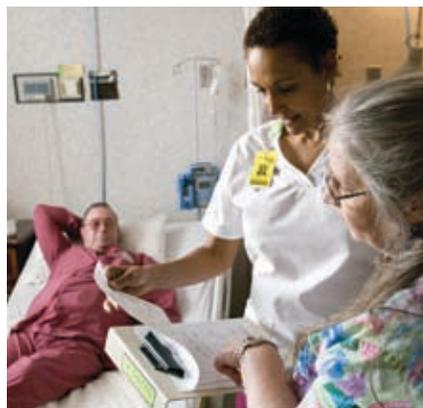
Faculty Support	\$7 million
Student Support	\$4 million
Programs and Research	\$3 million
TOTAL	\$14 million
TOTAL RAISED TO DATE	\$6.9 million

College of Nursing Kicks Off CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The University of Florida holds the promise of the future: Florida Tomorrow—a place, a day, a belief. Florida Tomorrow is filled with possibilities. The Florida Tomorrow Campaign is to raise \$1.5 billion for UF to shape the university, but also to touch the state of Florida, the nation and the entire world. Here at the College of Nursing, we believe Florida Tomorrow is an opportunity, one filled with promise and hope.

In this time of severe and growing shortage of nurses and nursing faculty, many believe the solution is to simply turn out more nurses faster, maintaining the nursing status quo.

The alumni and faculty of the UF College of Nursing believe



Florida Tomorrow is a place where every patient has access to safe and high-quality health care.



Florida Tomorrow is a day when well-educated nurses lead in the transformation of care.



Florida Tomorrow is a belief that new professional nursing roles will save lives.



(L-R) PhD Consortium student Ann Huesinger, recent Clinical Nurse Leader graduate Amanda Brown and DNP student Berkley Olvera at the College of Nursing Campaign Kickoff Symposium in September. Huesinger, Brown and Olvera discussed their decision to pursue innovative and pioneering roles in nursing.

we can never fix our broken health care systems or provide high quality nursing care for every patient by embracing the status quo. We view the current shortage as a tremendous opportunity to improve the future of health care — a chance to better educate nurses and reform delivery models so that every professional nurse is utilized to the full extent of her or his knowledge, skill and ability.

For these reasons, we are pioneering the Clinical Nurse Leader and Doctor of Nursing Practice degree programs, and in partnership with clinical care leaders, are exploring new and better ways to shape health care so that interdisciplinary teamwork is fostered and patients are the central focus of our efforts.

We are also preparing a new generation of nursing faculty who will educate and inspire professional nurses to be risk-takers and innovators, not satisfied with “good enough” nursing practice.

Every College of Nursing graduate is prepared to “care, lead, inspire”; every faculty member understands that teaching, research and practice must move nursing to a new place. As our alumni, friends and supporters, we hope you will join with us as we advance the profession on behalf of those we serve. Your encouragement, your gifts and your ideas are essential to move us to tomorrow.

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THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

For more information about the UF College of Nursing’s Capital Campaign, please visit www.floridatoday.ufl.edu/nursing or contact Meg Hendryx, Development Officer, at (352) 273-6517; mhendryx@ufl.edu

Labor of Love

COLLEGE CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF NURSE-MIDWIFERY EDUCATION

By Tracy Brown Wright

When Betty Hilliard came to Florida in 1960 to join the UF College of Nursing's faculty, she was one of only three nurse-midwives in the state. Now, almost 50 years later and 25 years after she founded the first nurse-midwifery program in Florida, there are more than 300 practicing nurse-midwives in the state and many are alumni of the UF nurse-midwifery program.

Establishing the program was no easy feat, though. Dr. Hilliard faced detractors who thought midwives might compete with physicians and struggled to find qualified faculty and preceptors. It was a challenge — but it's one that the students, leaders and alumni who gathered Sept. 7 to celebrate the program's 25th anniversary are glad she tackled.

"We have nurse-midwifery graduates across the state of Florida and the country who have made an indelible mark on the health of women and their families." — Alice Poe

"Although encountering resistance to the nurse-midwifery profession in much of her professional life, Betty persevered and continued to dedicate herself to women's health," said Alice Poe, Associate Professor and coordinator of the nurse-midwifery program. "Betty doggedly pursued the establishment of the nurse-midwifery program that we celebrate today. She was such a wonderful mentor to me and so many others — so kind and giving and willing to share her knowledge."

After the initial struggles, the UF nurse-midwifery program opened in 1982 in Gainesville. At the time it was one of two nurse-midwifery programs in the state. The program, which seeks to prepare students to be professional nurse-midwives who can meet the health needs of childbearing women and their families, eventually moved to the college's Jacksonville campus.

"The UF nurse-midwifery program was founded and continues today with the core mission that nurse-midwifery care focuses on the care of both the individual and the family," Dr. Poe said. "We are preparing nurse-midwives to provide the highest level of care to childbearing women and their families based on a sound curriculum of science and clinical care. UF nurse-midwives consider themselves partners with physicians in ensuring that women and families have a safe and satisfying childbirth experience."

After Dr. Hilliard retired in 1990, Dr. Poe took the reins of the program and remains the coordinator today. Since 1990, Dr. Poe has helped the program secure significant state and federal funding and also has helped increase the nurse-midwifery workforce by recruiting students from disadvantaged backgrounds, medically underserved areas and underrepresented populations.



Top photo: Nurse midwifery graduates with founder Dr. Betty Hilliard (second from left). (L-R) Lauri Ross-Berke, Dr. Hilliard, Shirley McCulloch, BJ Chiota and Mary O'Meara. Bottom photo: (L-R) Dr. Alice Poe, Coordinator of the Nurse-Midwifery program, Dr. Betty Hilliard, Professor Emeritus and founding Coordinator, Dr. Charles Mahan, a friend and supporter of the program and Ms. Eunice "Kitty" Ernst, president of the American College of Nurse Midwives.

"I think what strikes me most from my 17 years as coordinator of this program and 22 years as a faculty member has been our graduates," Dr. Poe said. "We have nurse-midwifery graduates across the state of Florida and the country who have made an indelible mark on the health of women and their families."

During the celebratory luncheon, Eunice "Kitty" Ernst, president of the American College of Nurse-Midwives, presented Dr. Poe with a lifetime Gold Commendation award for the program's 25 years of innovative and compassionate midwifery care provided to families in Florida and the education provided to midwifery students. ACNM also gave a gift to benefit the Mary Elizabeth Hilliard Professorship Fund. In fact, a number of alumni and friends attending the luncheon also contributed to the fund, which benefits a professorship in nurse midwifery paying tribute to Dr. Hilliard.

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1960s

Sandra (Shutts) Arthur, BSN 1963. Sandra is currently semi-retired and working part-time for Prevent Child Abuse, Pickens County, South Carolina. She currently teaches positive parenting skills and mentors teens and young adult moms in their efforts to become good parents and successful adults.

Shirley Bloodworth, BSN 1965, MSN 1966. Shirley currently works as the Director of the Primetime Institute at Santa Fe Community College, Gainesville, Florida. Her daughter, Beverly Alexander is also a UF College of Nursing graduate.

Mary E. Markert, MSN 1968. Mary recently retired from St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, DC after 32 years in nursing as a Geropsychiatric Clinical Administrator and Quality Assurance Analyst, and has recently returned to Florida.

1970s

Janis P Bellack, PhD, RN, FAAN, MSN 1971. Janis is the President at MGH Institute of Health Professions in Boston, Massachusetts.

Sandra (Hunt) Graham, BSN 1972. Sandra currently works as a Family Nurse Practitioner in an outpatient clinic at Grady Hospital in Atlanta and has been there for 17 years. She became a nurse practitioner in 1980.

Mary Shannahan, MSN 1972. Mary retired as Associate Professor from the College of Nursing at Florida State University. She is currently a Nursing Advisor to the Panhandle Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Project under the auspices of Capital Area Healthy Start.

Dr. Mary R. Lynn, BSN 1974, MSN 1975. Mary was recently promoted to Full Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing and accepted the position of UNCC Assistant Director for Operations, Office of Human Research Ethics.

Mary Nelle Thomas, BSN 1975, MSN 1983. Mary had taught Health Science courses in the Hendry County Schools for 21 years and has recently moved this year to the Reading Coach position at Clewiston High School handling professional development and coaching for staff.

Dr. Kathleen Jett, BSN 1976, MSN 1984, PhD, 1994. Kathleen was inducted into the National Academy of Practitioners last winter. She has just completed co-writing the latest edition of *Toward Healthy Aging* (Ebersole, Hess, Touhy, Jett & Luggan) which came out in October. She is currently an Associate Professor at the

Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing, Florida Atlantic University.

Susan (Kennedy) Hanson, BSN 1977. Susan is also a graduate of UF law school, 1982. She is currently the head of the public defender's office in the city of Richmond, Virginia, which is the largest office in the state. Her son was born at Shands and is currently a pharmacy student at UF (where her husband of 27 years got his PhD).

Susan Sutterlin, BSN 1977. Susan worked in hospital intensive care until her son Matthew was born. He is now 23 and just graduated from USF with a degree in Computer Engineering. She keeps her Florida nursing license active, and takes care of her 88 year old mother full-time in the Tampa Bay area.

Carolyn Innis Steadham, MSN 1979. Carolyn is the VP of Nursing and Patient Services at Miller Children's Hospital in Long Beach, California. Carolyn lives two blocks from the water with her husband, Michael Remley, and enjoys spending their spare time gathering with friends, traveling, and spoiling their two grandchildren.

Terri (McGowan) Repasky, MSN, RN, CEN, EMT-P, BSN 1979. Terri received her MSN in California as an Emergency/Trauma Clinical Nurse Specialist and is currently in that role in Tallahassee, Florida. She had taught paramedics and emergency nursing for 10 years in Los Angeles before returning to her hometown of Tallahassee in 1997. She is married to a Gator Engineer, Mark who has his own business. They have two boys; Dylan 15 and Tanner 13. "Life in Tallahassee is great — especially when the Gators have a year like last year."

1980s

Terrie Jares McKelvie, RN, BSN 1981. Terrie is working in Labor and Delivery at Lee Memorial Health System in Ft Myers, Florida. Daughter, Jessica, just started graduate school at UF College of Nursing! "I'm doing my part to keep Gator nursing going strong! Go Gators."

Lynn (Moore) Bennett, BSN 1981. Lynn has worked at North Florida Regional Medical Center in Gainesville, Florida for 27+ years. She is currently the Orthopedics Case Manager on the new 7th floor and assisted with the development of the Ortho Camp and video teaching tools. Married to John, she has two daughters. The oldest, Brittany, just completed four years in the Marine Corps as a rifle/pistol range instructor and is now at Santa Fe Community College to pursue a career in radiography/sonography. The youngest, Stefanie, is

also at Santa Fe and plans to pursue a career in nursing.

Holly (Galigani) Howard, BSN 1982. Holly is currently a neonatal nurse practitioner in Miami who commutes monthly from Georgia. She has two children at UF this year. One is a sophomore education major and one is a freshman engineering major.

Marjorie (Conner) Allen, BSN 1984. Marjorie practiced pediatric nursing for 5 years (4 years at Shands in Gainesville and one year in the bone marrow transplant unit at Emory Children's Hospital) and went on to graduate with a law degree from FSU in 1992. She is currently working in-house counsel for Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville representing physicians and nurses for the past 8 years.

Tracy B. Lowrey, BSN 1987. Tracy is currently working in a cardiac imaging research program with clinical and administrative/research roles at the NIH – Suburban MRI Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

1990s

Cathy Black Pank, BSN 1990. Cathy served in the US Air Force from 1990-1993. Her husband is still active duty with the Air Force at MacDill AFB, Florida. She received her MSN as a Family Nurse Practitioner and Nursing Education concentration in 2006 from the University of South Florida. She is currently a dermatology nurse practitioner in Brandon, Florida. Cathy has two sons, Connor, 13, and Brendan, 11.

Darlene Edic Crawford, ARNP, MSN, BSN 1990. Darlene is working as a Nurse Practitioner with an Internal Medicine physician in Gainesville. She also works part-time at Good Samaritan with the anesthesia department doing pre-op assessments. She has 4 children (ages 10, 7, 5, and 1).

Danielle (Mazzola) Kistler, BSN 1991. Danielle is currently a Leader Care Manager for Healthways, a disease management company, and handles disease management and patient education for chronic conditions as well as wellness education.

Julia Gamble, BSN 1992. Julia received her MSN and ARNP from Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton in 1996. She currently lives in Pepperell, Massachusetts and works at the Veterans Administration in Bedford as a Clinical Nurse Analyst for Design Support Systems. She will be compiling reports from data received from the National VA medical record and presenting to various groups with hopes of changing legislation and the practice of medicine through the VA.

Seleeta Favara, BSN 1992. Seleeta is currently working as a Quality Clinical Reviewer and Trainer in the Retrospective Review department for AvMed Health Plans in Gainesville. Her daughter, Christina, will graduate from University of South Florida in August with her master's degree in sociology and her son, T.J., is in the decision and information sciences program at the UF Warrington College of Business Administration. Her husband, Paul, is an environmental engineer for CH2MHill.

Sylvia Worden, BSN 1991 MSN 1993. Sylvia left UF in 2002 after 5 years as a women's health ARNP in the UF Student Health Care Center. Currently, she is the Associate Dean of Student Health Services at Golden West College, the community college of Huntington Beach, California.

Jamie Zoellner, BSN 1993. Jamie is currently working as an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner in the Cardiothoracic ICU at Duke University Hospital.

Stephanie Weinseier, BSN 1993. Stephanie is practicing as an ARNP in the Emergency Department at Cleveland Clinic Florida, raising 3 kids ages 9, 6 and 2—"all are BIG GATOR FANS!"

Ann Glasse, BSN 1993. Anne is a Region Manager based in Ft. Lauderdale for a Minneapolis based privately held company called CVRx, Inc.

Jennifer (Fasanello) Rowland, BSN 1993. Jennifer works for Pfizer in their clinical trials research program as a Clinical Research Site Manager and Territory Development Specialist for Florida.

Denise Henning, BSN 1993, MSN 1997 in Nurse Midwifery. Denise is currently the Director of Clinical Operations for Women's Health at Family Health Centers in Fort Myers, Florida. She is married with one son who is attending college in Central Florida.

Susan Kohler, BSN 1994. Susan is currently working at WellCare of Georgia, Inc. as the Director of Health Service Operations.

Marcia J. Parker, MSN, ARNP, FNP-C, BSN 1995, MSN 2003. Marcia is a provider for an OB/GYN who bought an internal medicine practice in Tallahassee, Florida.

Charlene Leonard, BSN 1996. Charlene is a Pediatric Critical Care Nurse Practitioner for UF, both in the PICU at Shands/AGH and at Wolfson Children's Hospital in Jacksonville.

Ellen B. Prosser, MSN 1997. Ellen is Director of Maternal Child Health at Munroe Regional Medical Center in Ocala, Florida. "I must say

that the baby business is booming this summer. Munroe is especially challenged since we are the only obstetrical business in town."

Brian Carman, BSN 1997. After graduation, Brian rejoined the US Navy, commissioned as an Ensign in the Navy Nurse Corps. Over the last 10 years, he has traveled the world, while practicing in a variety of nursing settings, from Medical-Surgical and Labor and Delivery to Combat Casualty Care while deployed with the Marines in Kuwait and Iraq in 2003. Two years ago, he was accepted to the Army-Baylor Master's Program in health and business administration.

Teresa (Teri) Montgomery-Hardy, BSN 1998. Teresa is in the last 2 semesters of a master's degree in nurse anesthesia at Wolford College in Naples and serves in the Army Reserves as a Captain.

Angela White, BSN 1998, MSN 2003. Angela is a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner at Sarkis Family Psychiatry in Gainesville.

Suzanne Maldarelli, BSN 1999. Suzanne is currently stationed in Spain as a Navy nurse. She has worked in many areas of nursing including maternal child, med-surg, NICU, L&D and now ER.

2000s

Gisell Gonzalvo, BSN 2001. Gisell is still working as a staff RN in the same Critical Care Unit since graduation located in Miami. She is also pursuing a Master's degree in an Acute Care ARNP program.

Sharon Balanis, BSN 2001. Sharon is employed with LifeSouth Community Blood Center as the Therapeutic Nurse Supervisor in Gainesville.

Amy Wada, BSN 2002. Amy graduated with her MSN from Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center/University of North Carolina at Greensboro in August 2006. She is currently working as a staff nurse anesthetist at Rowan Regional Medical Center in Salisbury, North Carolina.

Amanda (Dupee) Daniels, BSN 2002, MSN 2003. Amanda is currently working as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, Florida. She was married in 2004 to fellow UF grad Toby Daniels, and they had their first baby in February of this year, a girl named Rae Lynn.

Nicole (Klesmit) Karcinski, BSN 2003. Nicole is currently working at UNC Healthcare in Chapel Hill, North Carolina with the Eating Disorders Program.

president's message

Dear Gator Nurses,

I hope everyone enjoyed this year's reunion weekend. It was great to see you there. Our reunions are increasing every year, so be sure to mark your calendars when next year's date comes out so you will be able to join in on the fun.



MARYSE PARRINO

Guests were able to REDISCOVER the Gator Nation by attending the cocktail reception at UF's very own Florida Museum of Natural History, and then shuttled up to Gator Growl where the show was emceed by College of Nursing faculty member Shelley Meyer, and was wrapped up with a performance by Lynyrd Skynyrd and the traditional fire works show at the end.

It was also a great weekend to RECONNECT with former classmates and faculty, and meet new friends. Some alums even reconnected with the College by volunteering their time to serve on the Alumni Council.

Finally, everyone REIGNITED their passion for Gator Nursing by coming back to the College and seeing the great things that we are doing. There were tours of the College of Nursing building and the Iona M. Pettengill Nursing Resource Center, where many alums were amazed at the technology the College has now compared to when they were here.

This has been a great year for me to serve as President of the Alumni Council and I look forward to the coming year. Have a happy and safe holiday season.

Go Gator Nurses!

Maryse Parrino, BSN 1974

Nursing Alumni Council President

Do you have an update to share?

Please contact Anna Miller at aemiller@ufl.edu or call (352) 273-6360.

THE GATOR
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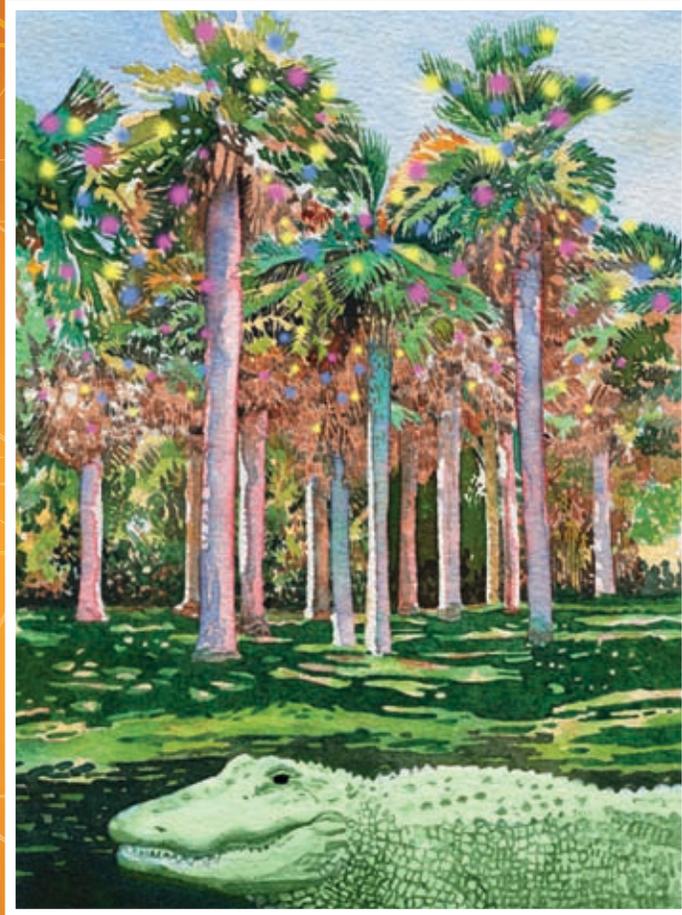
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Warm and sunny wishes for a wonderful holiday season
from everyone at the University of Florida College of Nursing!
— Dean Kathleen Ann Long

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