

# Duke Nursing

magazine

Winter  
2010  
Volume 5, No. 1



- 12 DNP and MSN Student Innovators
- 14 Educational Institute Retools for a New Generation
- 17 Honoring Alumni Excellence in Science and Service



# rethinking

## Duke Nurses Bring Innovation to Bedside, Classroom, and Community

The colored lines of this ultra high-field MRI indicate the neural pathways in the brain.

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#### **DukeNursing Magazine**

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# welcome

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July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

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## Dear Friends,

In this issue of Duke Nursing we offer you a glimpse of our work in rethinking global education and service, care delivery, patient care innovations, and teaching and learning.



Increasingly students are fulfilling their clinical requirements and residency hours in service learning-cultural immersion experiences abroad. As a result, graduates are demonstrating with great success their clinical capabilities and adaptability to the needs of underserved populations in diverse community health care settings as well as disaster situations.

Duke nursing faculty, students, and alumni are working in collaboration with health care professionals in other countries to increase the health care delivery capacity of systems within and beyond the U.S. They are introducing advanced levels of clinical and academic nursing and sharing the latest improvements in nursing practice and education. Their work, in turn, will inform future endeavors.

Duke nurses are partnering with university and health system colleagues and service providers in the community to support interdisciplinary and inter-professional research at the point of care. They are developing innovative approaches to patient care delivery,

testing and demonstrating new and more comprehensive models of patient care, collecting evidence for best practices, documenting that knowledge to fill in the gaps, and translating their findings into practice—for the benefit of all health care professions and the health of the community.

Duke nurses are contributing to the art, science, and profession of teaching. They are studying, evaluating, and incorporating the latest educational technologies in classroom, laboratory, and clinical settings. As they do so, they are gathering data and sharing that information within and beyond the nursing profession.

Throughout the history of nursing at Duke, the thinking nurses of Duke have been rethinking their roles. They are pioneers developing community partnerships, conducting nursing research, and expanding their contributions to education and patient care. With ever more work to be done, the Duke nursing tradition of innovation and experimentation continues.

Catherine Lynch Gilliss, BSN'71, DNSc, RN, FAAN

Dean and Helene Fuld Health Trust Professor of Nursing  
Vice Chancellor for Nursing Affairs, Duke University

# appointments



Bradi Granger, MSN'91,  
PhD, RN, FAAN



Isaac Lipkus, PhD



Susan G. Silva, PhD



Terry D. Ward, PhD, RN



Michael Zychowicz,  
DNP, RN, ANP-C, FAANP

## New SON Faculty Appointments

**Bradi Granger, MSN'91, PhD, RN, FAAN**, has been appointed associate director of the Duke Translational Nursing Institute. She will also teach research utilization and be involved in the DNP capstone and PhD dissertation projects. Her experience includes serving as director of the Duke University Health System Heart Center Nursing Research Program and as a clinical professor at the School of Nursing, where she taught applied statistics, research utilization, directed research, and the critical care clinical nurse specialist residency. She is the principle investigator for a National Institutes of Health (NIH)/National Institute of Nursing Research pilot study on a new intervention to improve medication adherence and co-investigator on an NIH/National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute grant on tailored interventions in diabetes and hypertension. She is a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and the Cardiovascular Nursing Council of the American Heart Association and a 2009 recipient of the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses Circle of Excellence Award. She holds a bachelor of science degree in nursing from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, a master of science in nursing degree from the Duke University School of Nursing, and a doctorate degree from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Isaac Lipkus, PhD**, has been appointed professor. He is the principle investigator on two National Institutes of Health (NIH)/National Cancer Institute grants: one to explore how providing genetic risk information affects college smokers' perceptions of lung cancer risk and motivation to quit; and the other to explore the relationships and consequences between what smokers think they know and what they actually know about the harms of smoking. He is also the principle investigator of an NIH/National Human Genome Research Institute grant to assess risk communication educational practices in genetic counseling programs. He also directs a Marchionne Foundation-funded study examining breast cancer patients' understanding of genomic information about their risk of a cancer recurrence to help inform adjuvant treatment decisions. He is a member of the American Society of Preventative Oncology Executive Committee where he chairs the Behavioral Oncology and Cancer Communications Special Interest Group. He was previously a professor in the Duke Medicine Department of Psychiatry and a cancer control scientist for the Cancer Prevention, Detection, and Control Research Program. He has served on numerous editorial boards. He holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of California, San Diego, and master's and doctorate degrees in social psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Susan G. Silva, PhD**, has been appointed associate research professor and statistician. She teaches design and analysis courses in the PhD and DNP programs. She has statistical expertise in longitudinal data analysis, hierarchical mixed-effects models, moderator and mediator analyses, and randomized clinical trial methods. Silva's experience includes serving as a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and Clinical Trials Statistics Group at the Duke Clinical Research Institute since 1999. Over the past 11 years she has been a statistical principal investigator for several landmark clinical trials in neuropsychiatry, including the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)-sponsored Treatment for Adolescents with Depression Study. Silva received a PhD in experimental/biological psychology from North Carolina State University and completed an NIMH-sponsored postdoctoral fellowship in neuropsychology and cognitive neuroscience at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. While at UNC, Silva was a member of the faculty in the medical school psychiatry department and was director of the Neurobehavioral Assessment Core and associate director of the Data Management and Biostatistics Core for UNC's NIMH-funded Mental Health and Neurosciences Clinical Research Center.

DUSON Faculty Grant Activity  
FY 2008–2009

**13** New Grants

**9** Grants Renewed

**27.7%** Success rate for new grant submissions

**\$3,285,164** Total Grant Funding

**\$3,634,428** National Institutes of Health Funding

**Terry D. Ward, PhD, RN**, has been appointed assistant clinical professor. Her experience includes serving as interim director of nursing education at the Watts School of Nursing, as a home health medical and surgical nurse in Durham and surrounding counties, and as a clinical nurse instructor in surgery on psychiatry and medical surgical nursing units. She is a member of the Southern Nursing Research Society, the North Carolina Nurses Association, the National League for Nursing (NLN) and the American Nurses Association. She is a program evaluator for the NLN Accreditation Commission and was a North Carolina NLN executive board member from 2003–05. She is a recipient of the 2007 North Carolina Nurse Scholars Award and a Triangle North Carolina Nurses Association Scholarship. In 2009 she presented “Life is Hard: The Lived Experience of Adults with Bipolar Disorder and Comorbid Substance Use Disorder” at the 10th Advances in Qualitative Methods Conference and 15th Qualitative Health Research Conference in Vancouver and at the Southern Nursing Research Society 2009 Annual Meeting. She holds bachelor and master of science in nursing degrees from the University of Mobile in Mobile, Ala., and a doctorate from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

**Michael Zychowicz, DNP, RN, ANP-C, FAANP**, has been appointed associate clinical professor and director of the Adult Nurse Practitioner Program. His experience includes 10 years as a nursing faculty member at Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh, N.Y., and 13 years as an adult nurse practitioner and RN first assistant at surgery in orthopedics and sports medicine, as well as 15 years as a reserve officer in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. He is a nursing faculty representative for the National Health Services Corps, a fellow of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, and a member of the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties and National Association of Orthopedic Nurses. He is a 2007 recipient of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Award for Excellence and a 2007–08 recipient of the Leadership in Academic Nursing Fellowship from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Zychowicz is the lead author and editor of the book “Orthopedic Nursing Secrets” and will be writing a regular column on orthopedic pathophysiology for Orthopedic Nursing. He holds a bachelor of science in nursing degree from The State University of New York at Plattsburgh, a master of science degree from Syracuse University, and a doctorate of nursing practice from Case Western Reserve University.



## Post-doctoral fellowship

The Duke University School of Nursing is pleased to announce that it will be starting a post-doctoral fellowship program in Fall 2010. This fellowship program will support two post-doctoral fellows each year in developing rigorous theoretical and methodological approaches for studying the separate and combined trajectories of chronic illnesses and care systems. The program aims are to expand the cadre of nurse scientists with advanced training necessary to build the science on trajectories of chronic illness and care systems and expand infrastructure within the school and interdisciplinary linkages outside the school to support post-doctoral training on trajectories of chronic illness and care systems. Post-doctoral training will involve auditing advanced coursework and supervised research. Each fellow admitted to the DUSON post-doctoral fellowship program will work with a mentor who shares a research interest and is able to supervise the fellow’s research. In addition, post-doctoral fellows will participate actively in an interdisciplinary center on campus that relates to their research area.

*For information about application materials and possible mentors, potential fellows should contact Diane Holditch-Davis, PhD, RN, FAAN, Marcus Hobbs Distinguished Professor of Nursing, Duke University School of Nursing, DUMC 3322, Durham, NC 27710 or [diane.hd@duke.edu](mailto:diane.hd@duke.edu).*

## Alumni & Friends Website Redesign

Duke Nursing Alumni Association Past-President **Connie B. Bishop, BSN'75**, spearheaded a redesign of the Nursing Alumni Association website, [nursealum.duke.edu](http://nursealum.duke.edu), over the summer.

The new site is designed to reflect the layout of the Duke University School of Nursing website.

“Our goal was to have the Alumni and Friends site serve as a portal for alumni to access information about nursing alumni events and services, the School of Nursing, and Duke University,” said Bishop.



The new site is divided into three main areas that direct you to Alumni Association Awards and benefits, alumni news, Duke Nursing Magazine, the Nursing Alumni Council, and Reunion information. The right navigation bar contains quick links to frequently used services, including the Duke Today website, a daily online newspaper for the Duke University community, and a link to the Duke University Alumni Association, where you can update your contact information. There are also links for upcoming events at the School of Nursing and Duke University events of interest.

“We hope you will make [nursealum.duke.edu](http://nursealum.duke.edu) your primary Duke link and that you share it with your fellow alumni and friends,” says Bishop.



DUKE MEDICINE ARCHITECT'S OFFICE

## Duke Expanding Medical Campus

Duke Medicine has embarked on the most ambitious expansion of its medical campus in decades—a project aimed at enhancing the experience of patients, families, students, and staff.

Construction has begun on the centerpieces of the expansion, the Duke Medicine Cancer Center and the Duke Medicine Pavilion, which together will add more than 800,000 square feet of space, with 160 intensive- and intermediate-care rooms, 16 new operating suites, 130 exam rooms and 75 infusion spaces dedicated to cancer care, and expanded and updated imaging platforms.

The Duke Medicine Pavilion will be a 580,000-square-foot, eight-story addition to Duke University Hospital and is expected to open in 2013. The Duke Medicine Cancer Center is a 267,000-square-foot, seven-story building devoted to cancer care and clinical research and is expected to open in 2012.

The decision to expand followed rigorous rounds of project reviews and approval by the State of North Carolina. According to Duke officials, larger, modernized facilities are needed to meet the needs of the fast-growing and aging population of the Greater Triangle area.

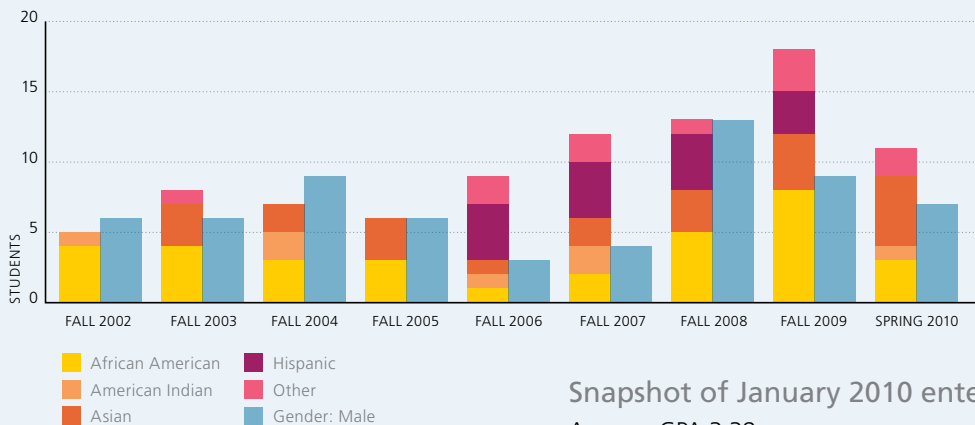
“This much-needed expansion will enable Duke Medicine to continue to further our missions in clinical care, teaching, and research—and to fulfill our commitment to all the people who depend on us to provide them with the best care available,” said Victor J. Dzau, MD, chancellor for health affairs at Duke and CEO of the Duke University Health System.

The new facilities are designed to be highly efficient, convenient, and welcoming, with natural light, green spaces and courtyards, larger patient rooms and patient resource rooms, and amenities for patients, families, and visitors. Climate controlled concourses will connect the new buildings with each other and with the existing Duke Hospital and Clinic buildings. A central outdoor park, the Duke Medicine Quadrangle, will connect the existing School of Nursing building, Duke Medicine Pavilion, Duke Medicine Cancer Center, and Duke Clinic.

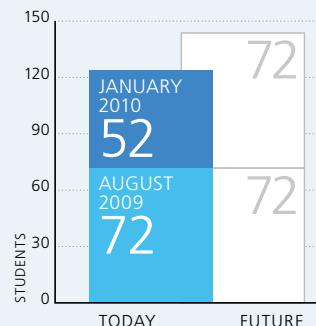
*For more information, including videos and a live construction webcam, please visit [dukemedicine.org/construction](http://dukemedicine.org/construction).*



## Ethnic and Gender Diversity in ABSN Program since 2000



## ABSN Plans to Expand



## Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Grants Boost Diversity

People who are currently underrepresented in nursing are getting more chances for a career in nursing thanks to two grants by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to the Duke University School of Nursing.

A total of 31 people from underrepresented groups—including African Americans, Hispanics, and other racial minorities, as well as men—have received \$10,000 scholarships for the 16-month Accelerated BSN program through two RWJF New Careers in Nursing grants. The school received \$70,000 in 2008-09 and \$240,000 in 2009-10, and has applied for more funding for the 2010-11 academic year, according to Michael Relf, PhD, RN, ACS-BC, FAAN, assistant dean for undergraduate education.

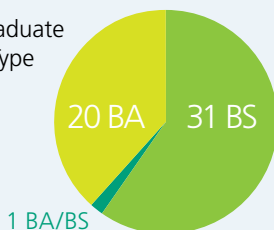
“This wonderful partnership with RWJF has allowed Duke to offer scholarships to highly qualified students from diverse racial, ethnic, and gender backgrounds,” said Relf. “We are committed to continuing this progress, and we will seek support from other organizations and individuals as well.”

In addition to increasing diversity, the scholarships recognize community service, overcoming significant life challenges, and demonstrated financial need. Duke was among 57 other schools nationwide to receive New Careers in Nursing grants from RWJF.

## Snapshot of January 2010 entering ABSN Class

Average GPA 3.38

Undergraduate Degree Type



Holding Secondary Degrees	12
Master's in Public Health	2
Master's in Business Administration	2
Master of Fine Arts	1
Master of Education	2
Master of Science-Exercise, Health Promotion	1
Master of Science-Chemistry	1
Master of Science-Geology	1
MS/PhD-Biomedical Engineering	1
MS/PhD-Engineering	1

## ABSN Program Expands

The Duke University School of Nursing admitted a new cohort of 52 Accelerated BSN students in January. Together with the 72 ABSN students admitted in August 2009, total enrollment in the 16-month program for the classes of 2011 is now 124, and plans are to continue expanding to approximately to 140 students graduating in two cohorts each year.



## Duke Men in Nursing Plant Daffodils

Springtime will bring hundreds of yellow daffodils to the School of Nursing thanks to the Duke American Assembly for Men in Nursing, who planted hundreds of bulbs in the fall. From left are Abdur Akbar, Greg Flynn, Nick Robbins, and Brian Gammon.

# people

## Gilliss and Champagne Appointed to Endowed Professorships

Catherine L. Gilliss, BSN'71, DNSc, RN, FAAN, and Mary T. Champagne, PhD, RN, FAAN, were appointed to endowed professorships in the School of Nursing in July. Champagne, who served as dean from 1991–2004, now holds the Laurel Chadwick Professorship. She is also a senior fellow in the Duke Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development. Gilliss, current dean and vice chancellor for nursing affairs, now holds the Helene Fuld Health Trust Professorship.

The Laurel Chadwick Professorship was established by School of Nursing alumna **Laurel J. Chadwick, BSNEd'53**, and her husband **Harry R. Chadwick Jr., T'51, L'53**, of St. Pete Beach, Fla.

The Helene Fuld Health Trust Professorship was established by the trust, which also helped establish Duke's Accelerated BSN Program with a gift of \$6 million in 2001. The Fuld Trust is the nation's largest private funder devoted exclusively to nursing students and nursing education.



## Gilliss Assumes Presidency of AAN

Dean Catherine L. Gilliss, BSN'71, DNSc, RN, FAAN, became president of the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) during the 36th Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Ga., in November.

The Duke University School of Nursing's first alumna dean, Gilliss is nationally known for her contributions to nursing education. Over a 35-year career she has prepared 3,500 nurses for careers in nursing science and advanced practice.

Before coming to Duke she was professor and chair of the Department of Family Health Care Nursing at the University of California, San Francisco, from 1993–98 and professor and dean at the Yale University School of Nursing from 1998–2004.

Since her appointment as dean and vice chancellor for nursing affairs in 2004, Gilliss has presided over the approval of the PhD in nursing and the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree programs, the construction of a 59,000 square-foot state-of-the-art education building, and the development of the 2006–2011 strategic plan. During her tenure the school has risen to become one of the nation's top schools of nursing in U.S. News rankings and National Institutes of Health funding.

## Sowers, MSN'89, Named Duke Hospital President

**Kevin W. Sowers, MSN'89, RN, FAAN**, was named chief operating officer (COO) of Duke University Hospital in June 2009. Due to a restructuring of the Duke Hospital leadership to align more closely with the national health care marketplace, the title of COO was changed to president in January 2010.

Sowers, who started his career at Duke 24 years ago as an oncology nurse, was selected following a national search. He previously served as COO and interim chief executive officer (CEO) and was responsible for implementing strategic objectives in collaboration with physician faculty, administrators, and staff and has had responsibility for the management of the hospital's clinical service units.

Sowers has led organizational initiatives at Duke Hospital, currently ranked 10th nationally by U.S. News, to improve clinical quality, patient satisfaction, work culture, and finance. He has led several hospital expansion projects, including a major expansion of the emergency department, modernization and expansion of hospital operating rooms, development of North Carolina's only pediatric cardiac care unit, and expansion of the intensive care nursery.

"Throughout his two decades of service to Duke University Health System, Kevin has played a significant role in the rise of Duke University Hospital to one of the elite medical institutions in the country," said Victor J. Dzau, MD, chancellor for health



affairs at Duke and CEO of the Duke University Health System.

Sowers is internationally known for his lectures and writings on the issues of leadership, organizational change, mentorship, and cancer care. His clinical research has focused on human responses to chronic illness. He is a 2006 recipient of the Duke University School of Nursing Distinguished Alumnus Award.



## Scott Named to National Education Post

W. Michael Scott, MSN, FNP-BC, was elected vice chair of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) in Washington, D.C. Scott, whose appointment became effective in January, is currently clinics director and clinical associate in the Duke University School of Nursing.

Officially recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education, the CCNE is an autonomous accrediting agency contributing to the improvement of the public's health. It acts to ensure the quality and integrity of baccalaureate, graduate, and residency programs in nursing.

"This position will allow me to have continued input into an accrediting body that has done so much to ensure the quality of professional nursing education," said Scott. "In particular, it will allow me to stay current with existing curricula as it relates to advanced practice educational tracks."

Scott has more than 20 years of experience working in primary care settings and nurse practitioner managed clinics. His past clinical practice has focused on rural access to health care. He holds bachelor and master of science in nursing degrees from Georgia Southern University, where he is currently completing requirements for the doctor of nursing practice degree. Prior to coming to Duke he directed the NurseFirst Family Health Center in Seneca, S.C. In 2010 he will receive the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners State Award for Excellence.



## Wilson Named a Living Legend by AAN

Ruby L. Wilson, EdD'68, RN, FAAN, was named a 2009 Living Legend by the American Academy of Nursing (AAN). She was honored at a ceremony during the academy's 36th Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Ga., in November.

Since 1994 the academy has named a select group of fellows living legends in recognition of their extraordinary lifetime achievements, including sustained contributions to nursing and health care

and continuous influence on the profession.

"Dr. Wilson is a pioneer and her leadership has consistently resulted in improvements—in clinical care, education, professional societies, and policy," said Dean Catherine Gilliss, BSN'71, DNSc, RN, FAAN. "The impact of her quiet leadership through networking and aiding others to act cannot be overestimated."

Wilson was appointed the first clinical nurse specialist at Duke University Hospital in 1963, providing care for dialysis and kidney-transplant patients. She helped develop an advanced medical-surgical nursing course and the first-ever master's program in clinical nursing, which became a national model for graduate nursing specialization. She also co-chaired a program to care for the Durham community in the event of nuclear war, which was the basis for mass-casualty drills for hospitals still in use today, and directed the first Primary Nursing Project, through which nurses were teamed with physicians to provide more comprehensive patient care.

After she earned her doctoral degree at Duke in 1968 she accepted a three-year assignment in Bangkok, Thailand, through the Rockefeller Foundation to lead the development of the Ramathibodi University School of Nursing at Mahidol University.

As dean of the Duke University School of Nursing from 1971–84, she was known as an innovator who encouraged professional development of the faculty, established a pioneering undergraduate curriculum that combined core and clinical courses and required independent study, and offered options for students to study in England or in rural community hospitals in North Carolina.

Before coming to Duke, Wilson was a staff nurse, head nurse, and night clinical supervisor at Allegheny General Hospital in Pennsylvania. She holds a bachelor of science in nursing education from the University of Pittsburgh and a master of science in nursing from Case Western Reserve University.

Wilson has held numerous state-level appointments and has served professional nursing associations at the district, state, and national levels. She was the first North Carolina nurse member of the prestigious Institute of Medicine of the American Academy of Sciences. She also holds one of Duke University's highest honors, the Medal for Distinguished Meritorious Service.

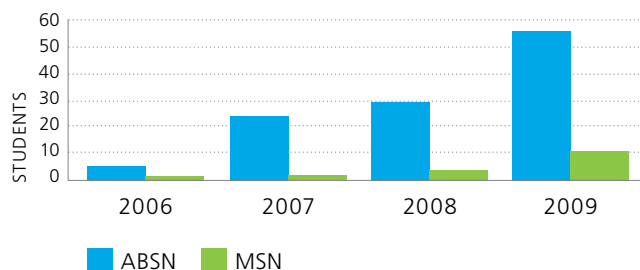
### Growing the Global Experience for Future Nurses

The vast Blue Mountains of Jamaica; the lush foothills of Mount Kilimanjaro, Tanzania; the dirt streets of rural villages in Honduras—these may not immediately bring to mind clinical training sites for nursing students, but at Duke, more and more future nurses are honing their skills in exotic and needy locations across the globe.

Last year 66 students from the Accelerated BSN and the MSN programs completed clinical requirements and residency hours through cultural immersion-service learning experiences in developing countries.

Made possible by the Office of Global and Community Health Initiatives (OGACHI), the international experiences included sites in Barbados, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, and Tanzania. More than 80 percent of last year’s ABSN class traveled in groups of seven or eight to fulfill clinical requirements for the Community Health Nursing class. A group of students who went to Moshi, Tanzania, had the opportunity to spend an

Increase in ABSN & MSN Student International and Local Experiences



additional four weeks at Marangu and Kilema hospitals, located in nearby rural communities, to satisfy their maternity nursing clinical requirements.

Many MSN students also completed residency hours in exotic locations. Students in the Nursing Education major spent a month as practice teachers in schools of nursing affiliated with Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center (KCMC) in Tanzania and the University of the West Indies in Mona, Jamaica. According to student Jennifer Parsons, “We learned that it is not always possible to conduct a learning-needs assessment prior to teaching a class, and that one needs to be flexible in adapting to the culture of the present environment.”

Two Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) students worked collaboratively with local health teams at Pasua and Majengo Health Clinics in Moshi. With an assistant medical officer as preceptor, they provided advanced nursing care to local residents. Tanzania does not have advanced practice registered

nurses (APRN), and so the students were able to introduce a new level of nursing practice to the health care system. They saw conditions rarely seen in the United States, such as malaria and typhoid, and cared for many children and adults on a daily basis. About 70 patients per day are seen at the Majengo Health Clinic, which typically has about 50 deliveries per month and as many as 10–15 births on a given day.

According to Dorothy Powell, EdD, RN, FAAN, associate dean of global and community health initiatives, each experience is unique and offers the students cultural sensitivity and an awareness of health disparities in developing countries.

“Our students return from their cultural immersion experiences with an in-depth understanding of the workings of community health care systems and customs of diverse populations,” she says. ♦



School of Nursing students worked side-by-side with their peers at Universidad Politécnica de Nicaragua (UPOLI) during a two-week global health rotation.



Nurse anesthetist Lee Freeman, MSN'06, comforts a Haitian child whom he helped to care for during the Duke Medicine Haiti Relief Team's visit to Haiti from Feb. 5-14.

## Duke Medicine Sends 14-Member Team to Haiti

As medical teams from around the world pour into Haiti to help with earthquake relief efforts, a Duke Medicine team of doctors and nurses—including four Duke School of Nursing alumni—joined them from Feb. 5-14. A second group from Duke was planning another trip in the weeks following the first group's return.

Half of the 14-member Duke Medical Haiti Relief Team worked at the Partners in Health (PIH) hospital in Cange. The hospital is overwhelmed with patients from Port-au-Prince, which is two hours away.

The other half of the team worked at a giant field hospital in Port-au-Prince.

PIH, a global health organization led by Duke alumnus and University Trustee **Paul Farmer, T'82, MD, PhD**, has been providing medical care in Haiti for more than 20 years. The Duke team's goals are to meet the ongoing demand for surgical procedures, post-op care, and specialized wound care; and to help reinitiate medical care for people with serious chronic

infectious diseases such as tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS.

Ian Greenwald, MD, the Duke team leader, said the heat was sweltering, adding to already extremely difficult conditions. He said most operations were done under the battery power of vehicle headlights, and power outages were frequent. "Providing care in that environment is both physically and emotionally challenging," he said.

Victor J. Dzau, MD, chancellor for health affairs at Duke and CEO of the Duke University Health System said he is "proud of the commitment of our staff to make the personal sacrifices necessary to reach out to the people of Haiti. It is a testament to the character of our faculty and employees and their preeminent commitment to helping others."

**Dean Catherine L. Gilliss, BSN'71, DNSc, RN, FAAN**, said she was especially pleased that nursing alumni were part of the Duke Haiti team. "We know the clinical capabilities of

our graduates," she said. "The involvement of these graduates signals our success in preparing nurses who are citizens of the world."

In addition to mobilizing this medical team, Duke Medicine also has provided shipments of medical supplies and medicines to Family Health Ministries, a non-profit medical mission organization in Haiti led by Duke faculty member David Walmer, MD, and his wife Kathy.

The 14-member Duke team included two general surgeons, an orthopedist, an anesthesiologist, a certified nurse anesthetist, an infectious disease physician/internal medicine physician, an emergency room physician, wound care nursing specialists, a limb-loss nursing specialist, nurses, and a surgical technologist.

Team members included: Ian Greenwald, MD, team leader; David MacLeod, MB, anesthesiologist; **Richard McCann, MD, HS'74-'83**, general surgeon; Mark Shapiro, MD, trauma surgeon; Cameron Wolfe, MD, infectious disease physician; Jocelyn Wittstein, MD, orthopedic surgeon; Henry Ward, nurse leader; **Lee Freeman, MSN'06**, nurse anesthetist; **Jan J. Johnson, MSN'83, GNC'96**, nurse practitioner; Edward Lavoie, clinical nurse; Shawna Neill, surgical technologist; **Nancy Payne, MSN'07**, clinical nurse specialist; Gaye Currier Slaughter, clinical nurse; and **Katie Sligh, ABSN'07**, clinical nurse.

Haitian health care providers have had to pause their work to attend to their own situations and families, said Cameron Wolfe, MD, an infectious disease expert on the Duke team.

"We've been asked to work with them to regain management of TB and HIV/AIDS care and work on the problem of infectious disease, including emerging ones like cholera," he said.

*For the latest news about Duke Medicine in Haiti, and to contribute to the Duke Medical Haiti Relief Team's efforts, visit [dukemedicine.org/Giving](http://dukemedicine.org/Giving) and click on "Duke Medicine Responds to Haiti Disaster."*

## McConnell Receives Fulbright Specialists Grant

Eleanor S. “Ellie” McConnell, BSN’76, MSN’78, PhD, RN, GCNS-BC, associate professor of nursing and director of the Gerontological Nursing Specialty Program, has been awarded a Fulbright Specialists grant in public and global health for an educational partnership with the University of the West Indies (UWI) School of Nursing in Mona, Jamaica. She is the first Duke nursing faculty member to receive this honor.

McConnell will assist with faculty and curriculum development and refinement of a clinical nurse specialist (CNP) and nurse practitioner (NP) geriatric advanced practice nursing program at UWI-Mona. She will also provide consultation on clinical practice sites.

McConnell has been working with UWI’s School of Nursing since 2006, helping to develop regional health care delivery capacity to address the needs of a rapidly growing elderly population. This work was conducted in partnership with the Pan American Health Organization Office of Caribbean Program Coordination, the Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM), and UWI-Mona.

According to McConnell’s postings on her blog, “Barbados is home to the Cave Hill campus of UWI. They have a strong working relationship with the Ministry of Health, who has supported development of a series of disease registries, including the Barbados Stroke Registry. They also have been successful partnering with industry to develop new resources



Marguerite, Fay, and Shela (from left) are members of the first group of gerontology nurse specialist students at the University of the West Indies School of Nursing in Mona, Jamaica. All three are from Barbados, where Fay is a nurse educator and Shela and Marguerite are clinicians at the Geriatric Hospital.

for research and education...In short the first graduates of the UWI School of Nursing Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist Program will find themselves in a country with rich data resources and a commitment to systematic approaches to improving health care generally.”

“Dr. McConnell’s work as a Fulbright Specialist will inform her research, enrich the initiatives of our Center of Excellence in Geriatric Nursing Education, and enhance our Office of Global and Community Health Initiatives continuing collaboration with UWI-Mona,” said **Dorothy Powell, EdD, RN, FAAN**, associate dean for global and community health initiatives.

To read Ellie McConnell’s blog, please visit [coegne.nursing.duke.edu/content/featured-blogs](http://coegne.nursing.duke.edu/content/featured-blogs)



## Safari and Service in Tanzania

July 16–26, 2010

The Duke Alumni Association and the Duke University School of Nursing Office of Global and Community Health Initiatives (OGACHI) are teaming up to bring you a Tanzania safari experience paired with educational and service opportunities.

- Experience incredible viewing of wildlife and the natural environment of the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater, including Tarangire National Park, Masai farmlands, and Olduvai Gorge
- Visit Amani Children’s Home in Moshi, dedicated to the protection of children of the streets and AIDS orphans, and meet director Valerie Johnson Todd, a Duke alumna
- Perform community service alongside local residents
- Tour the town of Moshi and visit Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center, where Duke has substantial clinical research collaborations. Meet medical and nursing students, residents, fellows, and Duke undergraduate students and hear about Tanzania’s complex social and health issues with John Bartlett, MD, HS’81–’84, ’85–’87, and John Crump, MD, HS’00, Duke physician faculty members in the Hubert-Yeargan Center for Global Health at Duke.

Contact: Beth Ray-Schroeder at Duke Education and Travel, 919-684-3046 or [Beth@daa.duke.edu](mailto:Beth@daa.duke.edu)

**Duke University School of Nursing  
Alumni Association**

## Translational Nursing Institute Puts Evidence into Practice

Applying nursing research to improve patient care is the focus of a new institute staffed jointly by School of Nursing and Duke University Health System nursing leaders.

The Duke Translational Nursing Institute (DTNI) is co-directed by **Dean Catherine Gilliss, BSN'71, DNSc, RN, FAAN**, and **Mary Ann Fuchs, MSN'90, RN**, chief nursing and patient care services officer for the Duke University Health System.

It is one of five core components of the Duke Translational Medicine Institute, established in 2006 with a \$52.7 million clinical and translational science award (CTSA) from the National Institutes of Health. Duke was among 11 institutions nationwide to receive the first round of CTSA's, which formed a national consortium of institutions dedicated to improving and speeding the process of translating research into new therapies and models of care, engaging with local communities to improve care and access to care, and training future generations of clinical and translational researchers.

The overall aim of the DTNI is to improve patient care outcomes through the development and use of evidence in the delivery of care.

"Nurses, especially those who deliver patient care, confront the gaps in our knowledge every day," said Gilliss. "They are well poised to generate research questions in need of answers. Similarly, these nurses are the ones who solve the everyday problems in patient care delivery and they want to bring innovative solutions to care delivery. The DTNI has been designed as a resource to support knowledge development, particularly at the point of care delivery."

According to Mary Ann Fuchs, chief nursing and patient safety officer for Duke University Hospital and the Duke University Health System, the DTNI's focus on evidence-based nursing practices "goes hand-in-hand with the goals of our nursing Magnet Recognition Program."

All three Duke Health System hospitals, Duke, Durham Regional, and Duke Raleigh Hospital, are among just 5 percent

of hospitals nationwide recognized as nursing magnets, indicating exceptional quality and safety of care.

"DTNI will help our nurses develop new knowledge that will enable them to deliver optimal patient care and readily identify opportunities to improve care. A good example of this is the institute's emphasis on improving the continuity of care for patients transitioning back home after a stay in the hospital," said Fuchs.



The DTNI operates a small grants program for faculty whose work addresses its aims and provides research design and statistical analysis support to nursing faculty and clinical associates.

Other members of the DTNI include **Bradi Granger, MSN'91, PhD, RN, FAAN**, associate director for research operations; **Debra Brandon, PhD, RN, CCNS**, associate professor; **Kimberley Fisher, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, IBCLC**, clinical research operations director; **Pamela Mitchell, PhD, RN, FAAN**, a visiting scholar from the University of Washington School of Nursing; **Bobbie Berkowitz, PhD, RN, CNAA, FAAN**, a consulting associate from the University of Washington School of Nursing; and **Shulamit Bernard, PhD, RN, ANP**. ♦

# rethinking:student innovators

## DNP Student Rolls Through Wayne County Delivering Care

by Jim Rogalski

Being a trucker was not a career that **Carol Ann King, RN, FNP**, ever envisioned. Yet most days the petite, size four, 44-year-old nurse practitioner can be seen behind the wheel of an imposing 40-foot-long rig as it meanders along some of Wayne County's most rural roads.

"The truck can feel pretty big navigating out of downtown Goldsboro," she says, "but I love this job and don't want to do anything else."

Her rig is a mobile health clinic called the WATCH Truck, short for Wayne Action Teams for Community Health. It travels to 20 different locations a month providing free primary care to Wayne County's uninsured population. She sees an average of 30 patients per six-hour-day, with 40-per days not unusual.

"We hustle, but everybody gets the care they need," she says. "And if I need

to bring them back every week I can because they're not paying \$75 for an office visit. There's no billing. It's just plain care and it's wonderful."

The program also includes a stationary clinic at the Goldsboro YMCA, which also is staffed by a nurse practitioner. The two clinics see a combined 950 patients per month. The \$600,000 annual cost is paid for with grants from Wayne County, The Duke Endowment, the State of North Carolina Office of Rural Health, the City of Goldsboro, and others. In the past five years, drug companies have donated \$5 million worth of medication through patient assistance programs.

"Sometimes people will see the truck on the road and follow us," King says. "Everyone knows the WATCH Truck."

In addition to health advocacy and general screenings for high blood pressure and diabetes, her clinic coordinates more involved care if needed, like colonoscopies, MRIs, mammograms, and surgeries. King is dialed in to the myriad services available to the uninsured in North Carolina, including the North Carolina Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, which recently paid for an MRI and then surgery for a young woman who without intervention would have soon become disabled from vascular necrosis of her hip. The woman is now back at work and

walking without pain. She also helped a self-employed, uninsured truck driver who had a brain aneurism receive the necessary brain surgery needed to survive. "We saved his life, and now he's perfect," King says. "He calls us his angels."

King is currently enrolled in the Duke University School of Nursing's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program. She will graduate in May as a member of the program's inaugural cohort of students. Most of her course work has been done online, with occasional on-site time required—usually on the weekends.

King's DNP clinical immersion project focused on whether people who need to be screened for colorectal cancer are getting screened. She enlisted 200 patients, only two of whom had ever been previously screened.

"It just doesn't happen in the uninsured population," she says.

Ninety-three percent of the 200 enrollees returned their initial stool cards. Of those patients who returned the cards, 10 percent showed signs of possible colorectal cancer, yet only seven percent agreed to have additional screening.

"The others didn't want to deal with it," King says. "That was totally unexpected."

The study showed the need for more intense education about the dangers of colorectal cancer and the importance of being tested. Her goal for getting her DNP degree is to be more competitive when applying for grants for studies and health promotion to the uninsured.

"Nurses need to be the leaders in health care," she says. "We have a very special view. We borrow from medicine and the social sciences and put it all together for the patient. Here at the clinic we have changed the course of people's lives."

Just one of her many successes in the past six months includes helping 14 people quit smoking. Her life's passion is to promote healthy lifestyles through proper diet and exercise. "I tell them that their health care costs will not be astronomical later if they take care of themselves now." ♦





## MSN Student Has Patent Pending

by Marty Fisher

**Jo Ellen Holt, ABSN'08**, could identify with her patient's frustration. Confined to his hospital bed, the former runner was bored and impatient to recover from throat surgery and a tracheotomy. Holt wanted to help, and she knew restoring lung function was key to her patient's recovery—and to avoiding a serious setback from pneumonia.

Normally, Holt would have offered an age-old nursing intervention, the incentive spirometer, a device that retrains patients to breathe deep by measuring and providing feedback on inhalation and exhalation. But with his tracheotomy, Holt's patient couldn't use the spirometer's mouth tube.

"I found a few things around the hospital unit and made him this adapter," she says. "He loved it. It gave him something to do and increased the strength of his cough. His tracheotomy resolved faster, and he progressed through treatment back to normal."

A former engineer who once made rocket engines for the military, Holt switched to nursing to put her inventiveness to work helping people heal. She graduated from Duke's Accelerated BSN program in 2008 and is currently working on a master's as an acute care clinical nurse specialist.

After her experience with the tracheotomy patient, she started checking around with her Duke University Hospital colleagues to see if adapters similar to the one she had improvised existed. She talked to respiratory therapists, who currently use a bag valve mask or ambu bag to force air into patients' lungs.

"I thought 'why not let the patient do it on their own and have more autonomy?'" she says.

That's when she decided to learn about the patent process. Holt now has a design and utility patent pending for her device and is talking with several

companies about building and marketing it. She hopes to encourage other nurses to put their innovative ideas into practice through the patent process.

"Nurses come up with the most ingenious ways to do things, but unfortunately we don't always protect our intellectual property," she says. "Nurses are under-represented in the patenting arena. I hope to show the process is doable for others."

Holt is becoming known for rocking the boat at Duke Hospital, where she currently works as a nurse on the 2300 Surgical and Trauma Transplant Unit.

Last year she received national media attention—including an interview on National Public Radio's "The Story" with Dick Gordon—when she used a patient's cell phone camera and voice recorder to create a tutorial the patient could use to care for a serious wound after being discharged from the hospital. Now she's working with Duke's administration to resolve concerns about protecting patient privacy so the cell phone application can be used by other nurses. She's also trying to work out profit-sharing details with Duke for her spirometer adapter.

In an effort to improve communication among doctors, nurses, and other members of medical and surgical hospital teams, Holt recently received a grant through an Innovation Fund created by Chancellor Victor J. Dzau, MD, to test several communications devices—Blackberries, iPhones, cell phones, and landlines—to determine the most effective tools for communication among team members.

Holt has also started a video competition on [iNET-Nurse.org](http://iNET-Nurse.org), a nursing educational technology website of Duke, Western Carolina University, and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Students are invited to create YouTube video versions of several existing patient-education pamphlets. The top three videos each receive a \$1,000 prize. ♦

## New Educational Institute Engages Students through Technology and Interactive Learning

BY BERNADETTE GILLIS

The days when a professor stood in front of a classroom and recited facts while students furiously attempted to jot it all down are numbered. At Duke University School of Nursing's new Institute for Educational Excellence, Theresa M. "Terry" Valiga, EdD, RN, ANEF, FAAN, is introducing new teaching methods and technology that promise to engage students and set them on a path toward lifelong learning.

Created in July 2008, the new institute promotes innovation in teaching and learning by using evidence and best practices, creating new knowledge to fill significant gaps, and employing new models of effective teaching to nursing and health professions educators at Duke and beyond.

In 2003 and 2005 the National League for Nursing (NLN) called for major reform in nursing education, noting many educators were still teaching the way they were taught as students, despite dramatic changes in health care, advances in educational technology, and better understanding about how adults learn.

More recently, important reports on nursing and healthcare education (Benner, Sutphen, Leonard & Day, 2010; Institute of Medicine, 2003) have noted that "reform of health professions education is critical to enhancing the quality of health care in the United States," and that "nursing education

needs teachers with a deep nursing knowledge who also know how to teach and conduct research on nursing education."

Among the radical transformations proposed are concept-based curricula, which organize content around core themes, such as biophysical, psychosocial, and life phases; better integration of classroom and clinical learning; clinical immersion experiences; and team learning, which brings students from different health professions together for interactive learning experiences.

Valiga wants to help faculty members shift from detail-focused, content-driven curricula toward a greater emphasis on broad principles, the development of deep thinking skills, use of cutting-edge technology, and the systematic use of evidence-based teaching practices. The strategic use of advanced technologies, in particular, not only serves to improve learning outcomes but also appeals to the Net Generation and others who increasingly rely on technology.

Before coming to Duke Valiga was chief program officer at the NLN. In the future she plans to focus on research related to teaching, learning, and technology use; developing a better understanding of how the brain processes new information; and forming national and international partnerships to promote innovation and evidence-based teaching practices.

The institute will be a critical force in achieving strategic educational goals at the School of Nursing and in developing new models for nursing education internationally, according to Dori Taylor Sullivan, PhD, RN, NE-BC, CNL, CPHQ, associate dean for academic affairs.



**"We need to move from covering content in classrooms to helping students think deeply and learn how to learn... Those really are the skills they'll need to survive in and, indeed, shape the world."**

—TERRY VALIGA



“The institute was created to provide a visible and vibrant hub for information and resources that will help revolutionize how teaching and learning occurs, within nursing and in partnership with other health professions,” she said.

Valiga’s team at the institute includes Pamela Edwards, EdD, MSN, RN, BC, CNE, associate director; Barbara Pellizzari, staff assistant; and Newman Lanier, educational technology specialist.

### CLASSROOM INNOVATIONS

“We need to move from covering content in classrooms to helping students think deeply and learn how to learn using a variety of approaches. Those really are the skills they’ll need to survive in and, indeed, shape the world,” says Valiga.

Helen Gordon, MS, CNM, CNE, assistant clinical professor of nursing, says evidence shows that many traditional teaching methods are not as effective in helping students become problem-solvers. “In any given classroom, you have auditory learners, visual learners, and kinesthetic learners, who, if they can’t touch it, it won’t be real to them,” Gordon says. “If you truly believe that one of your responsibilities is to teach to the different learning styles, then you can’t have your lectures grounded in just one approach.”

Sharon Hawks, MSN, RN, CRNA, associate director of the Nurse Anesthesia program, often consults with Valiga and her team about teaching methods, particularly those based in the latest technology. The Nurse Anesthesia program recently initiated a distance learning program that will allow

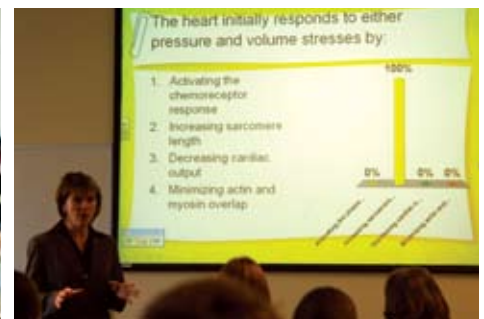
students from rural areas in North Carolina to participate in classes virtually. Video technology permits these students to communicate and participate in class from remote locations. Hawks has also collaborated with Valiga to develop electronic learning portfolios for her anesthesia students. A fairly new trend in the field of nursing, portfolios provide a more in-depth picture of a student’s accomplishments and philosophies for potential employers, Hawks says.

Another teaching method that Hawks has found useful in her classes is the audience response system. The system allows her to poll students anonymously, which helps when discussing controversial or emotionally charged topics. For example, Hawks might ask students whether they are for or against health care reform, and using handheld remotes or “clickers” the students can enter their responses. The system then displays results on a screen at the front of the class. “It’s a great way to discuss things,” Hawks says. “Maybe you’re the only one in your class who feels a certain way, and you’re really hesitant to say so. I don’t have to point you out. The system allows you to express divergent opinions and feel comfortable.”

Gordon often takes a less tech-savvy approach to teaching, but that doesn’t mean her students are any less engaged. She says she’s constantly looking for ways to encourage hands-on learning with her students, even at times making homemade displays or models.

One of Gordon’s creations is a doll attached to a plastic Christmas garland inside a plastic jar filled with water. The jar is used to demonstrate the effect of removing water from the

“In any given classroom, you have auditory learners, visual learners, and kinesthetic learners, who, if they can’t touch it, it won’t be real to them.” —HELEN GORDON



Nursing students use the audience response system.

“[Team-oriented and problem-based learning activities] stay with the students longer. They have more meaning and can be applied it right away in a clinical setting.” —MIDGE BOWERS

fetal membrane of a pregnant woman. Gordon says removing part of the water from the jar helps students retain a visual understanding of what happens when a woman’s membranes rupture early, which can cause the baby to compress the umbilical cord and lead to lowered fetal heart rate. “It’s crude but effective,” says Gordon. “I’m taking abstract concepts and making them relevant, understandable, and real.”

While Margaret “Midge” Bowers, MSN’90, RN, FNP-BC, assistant professor of nursing, is no stranger to using technology in the classroom, she has also found group activities—sans computers—to be effective. She says such team-oriented and problem-based learning activities prove useful for her students as they enter the real world.

Bowers likes to use “unfolding cases” in which each student group is presented with a case, but instead of presenting the patient’s history and symptoms all at once, Bowers gives the students selected bits of information at time, mimicking the way real life clinical situations unfold. Students then work together to formulate an appropriate treatment plan.

“The lessons from these activities stay with the students longer,” Bowers says. “They have more meaning and can be applied right away in a clinical setting.”

While the idea of incorporating innovative teaching methods is not exactly new in academia, Valiga says what is new is the push for faculty members to formally study these alternative methods. She is working to help the School of Nursing’s faculty members contribute to nursing education research by gathering data on what works and what doesn’t in their own classrooms and sharing that information with their peers through professional journals and conferences.

Just as nurses in practice are working to translate clinical research to improve nursing and health care practices, Valiga says there is a need for nurse educators to translate pedagogical research into best practices for the classroom, laboratory, and clinical environments.

Hawks, Gordon, and Bowers are all in the very early stages of data collection, and they each hope to eventually contribute to the body of education research.

### DEVELOPING NURSE EDUCATORS

The Institute for Educational Excellence offers a variety of opportunities for faculty to develop their educator skills. All faculty members have the chance to participate in a series of informal discussions about tools and techniques for effective teaching. Twice a month the institute hosts its “Teaching Conversations Series” at the school. Topics have included tips on presentations, best practices for online learning, and effective ways to use simulation technology.

Valiga says future plans for the institute include creating a repository to house nursing education resources in one easy-to-access location and promoting collaborative research efforts related to the physiology and psychology of learning and teaching innovations using this evidence. Additionally, using technology to expand the School of Nursing’s reach nationally and globally to educate nurses and enhance health care to communities in need is underway. She envisions the school serving as a model for nursing schools across the country that wish to advance excellence and innovation in nursing education. ◆

*For a schedule of Teaching Conversations dates and topics please visit [nursing.duke.edu](http://nursing.duke.edu) and click on “See all news and events,” and “the Institute for Educational Excellence hosts Teaching Conversations series.”*



Sharon Hawks



Distinguished Alumna Award  
Joy Forsythe Reed, BSN'70, EdD, RN, FAAN

**T**he deep passion that Joy Forsythe Reed, BSN'70, EdD, RN, FAAN, has for the Duke University School of Nursing (DUSON) and for the public health profession has its roots in a tragic event during her childhood. At age 14, one of her best friends—a boy who had taught her about boating and water skiing—fell off a roof and became a paraplegic.

Joy visited him regularly during the three months that her friend was at Duke Hospital. She was impressed with the many nurses and nursing students who helped treat him.

“I not only decided then that I wanted to be a nurse,” Reed says, “but I knew that Duke was exactly where I needed to go. The nurses helped me to plan out my high school curriculum—what courses I should take and what SAT scores I needed.”

Her desire to attend DUSON was so overpowering that she turned down a scholarship to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill against the advice of her guidance counselor who assured Reed that she was not a Duke caliber student.

“My first year was tough and I had to do a lot of catching up,” Reed says, “but fortunately for me [my guidance counselor] had waved that red flag in front of the bull, and I was determined to prove her wrong.”

Today Reed is a state and national leader on public health and nursing

issues. She is head of Public Health Nursing and Professional Development for the North Carolina Division of Public Health. She led the state's effort to develop the accreditation system for state and local health departments. That plan, adopted by the state Legislature in 2006, led to her current work on the accreditation program being beta-tested nationally with funding by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She was on the Standards Workgroup of the Exploring Accreditation Initiative and now serves on the Standards Committee of the national Public Health Accreditation Board, which is expected to accept its first applications to the accreditation plan in 2011.

Becoming a public health administrator melded perfectly with Reed's philosophy on health care, which is to keep people well to avoid health problems. “My belief is we need to shift money to the front end of the system,” Reed says. “To me it makes more sense to spend \$120,000 on pre-natal care programs and have a lot of healthy babies than to spend that money on just one low birth-weight baby in intensive care.”

She has also been involved with the national eight-member Quad Council of Public Health Nursing Organizations. It includes two leaders from four major nursing organizations—the Association of State and Territorial Directors of Nursing (ASTDN); the American Nurses

Association Council on Nursing Practice and Economics; the Association of Community Health Nursing Educators; and the Section of Public Health Nursing of the American Public Health Association. Reed was one of the two ASTDN representatives.

In 1998 Reed was a member of the inaugural cohort of students accepted into the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Executive Nurse Fellows Program. In 2008 she was inducted as a fellow into the American Academy of Nursing and also received the American Nurses Association (ANA) Pearl McIver Award for Public Health Nursing. She has twice served as ASTDN president and is a former chair of the Quad Council and the ANA committees to revise the Scope and Standards of Public Health Nursing and Nursing Administration.

Within North Carolina she has received the Reynolds Award, which recognizes the person who has made the greatest difference in public health in the state over the previous year. This was earned, in part, for her work helping local health departments cope with the aftermath of Hurricane Floyd, which struck the state in 1999.

Reed says she is especially indebted to Wilma Minnear, who was chief nurse at Duke Hospital during her time at DUSON. Minnear taught a leadership course during Reed's senior year.

“Her ability to make academics real was powerful,” Reed says. “She was grounded in the real world. She taught concepts of leadership through how it impacts patient care and outcomes. She and Duke opened up the world for me.” ♦

**CURRENT TITLE:** Head of Public Health Nursing and Professional Development for the North Carolina Division of Public Health

**EDUCATION:** Duke University School of Nursing; North Carolina State University College of Education and Psychology; UNC-Chapel Hill School of Public Health

**PERSONAL:** She and her husband William “Bill” Reed live in Raleigh. They have three children—Elizabeth (Beth), 26; Keri, 33; and Scott, 36.

—Jim Rogalski

# awards

**To Make a Nomination** please send an e-mail to [amelia.howle@duke.edu](mailto:amelia.howle@duke.edu) or call 919-667-2529 and note the person's name, name of the award, and a statement about why you believe they are qualified.



Distinguished Contributions to Nursing Science  
Jo Ann Baughan Dalton, BSN'57, MSN'60, EdD, RN, FAAN

“**T**ell me where it hurts” is one of the basic questions patients can expect from a health care provider. And yet, despite significant advances in medicine and medical technology, knowing exactly where it hurts, why it hurts, and how much it hurts remains an inexact science. People experience pain differently, and caregivers vary in their understanding of how to manage pain. Thanks to the pioneering research of School of Nursing alumna **Jo Ann Baughan Dalton, BSN'57, MSN'60, EdD, RN, FAAN**, patients suffering from cancer and other painful conditions have a better chance of avoiding debilitating pain.

Dalton confronted a lack of knowledge among health care providers, including nurses, on how best to assess cancer pain and administer pain medications. In fact, for 30 of her 50 years as a nurse researcher, Dalton focused on finding ways to help health care providers better understand cancer pain and how it affects the lives of their patients.

In one key study, Dalton and her colleagues developed the Biobehavioral Pain Profile (BPP), a questionnaire that allows patients to report on their beliefs

about pain. Instead of simply asking patients if they were in pain and using the response to create a one-size-fits-all treatment plan, Dalton's study involved asking patients more in-depth questions about factors that influenced their report of pain. She wanted to know more about the great variation she had observed in patients' response to painful stimuli.

Based on each patient's responses to the BPP, Dalton was able to create a profile that helped her better understand the individual, as well as test combinations of cognitive-behavioral therapies such as distraction, relaxation techniques, or imagery that might work best to manage an individual patient's pain.

“I was hoping to help people understand that it's a complex problem that requires constant reassessment,” says Dalton, who is professor emeritus at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University. “For example you don't just ask, ‘Are you having any pain?’ You continue to reassess their condition. Historically nurses did not do detailed pain assessments. My work has tried to expand that knowledge.”

Dalton's dedication to pain management research led to a number of National Institutes of Health awards. To promote knowledge and practice change, she co-founded the N.C. Cancer Pain Initiative, which was patterned after a national model created by the Alliance of Cancer Pain Initiatives.

As committed as she was to her research, Dalton insists her biggest contribution to nursing in general was teaching thousands of nursing students, including undergraduate and graduate students who were interested in developing their own studies on pain.

Her teaching career began at Duke's School of Nursing, and she later went on to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing, where she spent 27 years as a faculty member. At Emory she served as the Edith F. Honeycutt Chair in Oncology and Professor of Nursing until retiring in 2009.

The School of Nursing previously honored Dalton in 2007 with its Distinguished Alumni Award. Other honors include receiving the Outstanding Service Award from the North Carolina Nurses Association Board of Trustees in 2003 and being elected a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 1990. The North Carolina Nurses Association named Dalton Nurse Researcher of the Year in 1989. From 1985–87 she served as a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Nurse Scholar, and in 1957 she was awarded the U.S. Public Health Service Award. ◆

**CURRENT TITLE:** Professor Emeritus at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University

**EDUCATION:** Duke University School of Nursing; N.C. State University; University of Rochester

**PERSONAL:** She has three adult children—Katrina Dalton, Jennifer Roorbach, and Rebecca Reynolds—and lives in Atlanta, Ga.



Duke University School of Nursing Humanitarian Award  
**Shirley Davis Martin, N'56, BSN'58, MSN'60, PhD, ARNP**

**A** West African farmer with a 22-pound cyst on his arm, a 9-year-old Burkina Faso boy with a cleft lip, and a Kenyan boy with a brain tumor are mere glimpses of the countless people whose lives have been transformed with the help of **Shirley Davis Martin, N'56, BSN'58, MSN'60, PhD, ARNP.**

“A lot of people say that you can’t help them all, and that’s true,” she says. “So you help the one who is in front of you.”

That belief, along with a ceaseless devotion to serving Jesus Christ, has powered Martin’s commitment to helping the least fortunate of the world. With support from family and friends she has visited 31 countries over the past 40 years on an ambitious schedule of mission trips with a variety of mission organizations. She has developed nutritional guidelines for impoverished women, educated scores of nurses in third-world countries, and written and updated nursing curricula at provincial nursing schools and hospitals around the world. Once she even dipped into her own wallet to buy sunglasses for 20 albinos.

“Medicine is a short-term thing, but faith is forever,” she says.

Martin is a former faculty member of the Duke University School of Nursing. She is a former chair of the departments of nursing at William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo., and at Franklin University in Columbus, Ohio, and of adult nursing at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta. She

is former chair of medical-surgical nursing at Valencia Community College in Orlando, Fla. She has held faculty positions at the University of Florida College of Nursing; the University of South Carolina School of Nursing; San Diego State College; the University of Central Florida; Franklin University in Columbus, Ohio; and the Medical College of Georgia School of Nursing.

In January Martin left for Kenya on a several months-long mission to help run a clinic and upgrade nursing and patient safety standards at a small remote hospital. In October she will be in Vietnam helping to update nursing curricula in Hanoi and Saigon.

“It is astonishing [what she has done],” says Martin’s former Duke University School of Nursing classmate **Jean M. Bedell, BSN'56, RN, MA**, who nominated Martin for the School of Nursing Humanitarian Award. “Her commitment to nursing and her devotion to patients were already obvious [in nursing school].”

Martin says that in 1999 “the Lord was saying it was time to make mission trips more than just something occasional.” So she did, retiring from a long and successful career in academic and clinical nursing. Her travel resume reads like a world map: Kosovo, Romania, Brazil, Papua New Guinea, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Bolivia, to name a few of the countries where her clinical and educational nursing expertise is sought out and where the care she delivers is greatly appreciated by those who receive it.

The West African farmer—for whom she arranged surgery to have a giant cyst removed from his right arm—was so grateful for his ability to return to farming and contribute to his 60-person village that he gave Martin a highly prized sack of beans. The boy with the cleft lip—for whom she also coordinated surgery—saw himself in a mirror for the first time ever following surgery and with great excitement passed around the mirror to people in his village, believing his image, not their own, would be what they saw. She coordinated the effort to get surgery for the Kenyan boy with the brain tumor. In Romania she bought a bicycle for a 9-year-old boy who had nearly lost a leg. The bike allowed him to continue going to school while sparing the use of his injured leg as it healed.

Martin says her Duke nursing instructors instilled in her the importance of considering the patient and the family as a unit. She counts Thelma Ingles, a former professor and chair of Duke’s Department of Medical-Surgical Nursing, as her greatest influence.

“The model that I was taught at Duke is still the one I use today,” Martin says. ♦

**CURRENT TITLE:** Nurse Practitioner

**EDUCATION:** Duke University School of Nursing, University of Florida College of Nursing

**PERSONAL:** Has four grown children and 11 grandchildren. She lives in Orlando, Fla.

—*Jim Rogalski*

# 2010

## SAVE THE DATE

# REUNION

## APRIL 16-17, 2010



## Greetings to all Duke University School of Nursing Alumni!

As president of the Duke Nursing Alumni Association since July 2009, I am continually impressed with the school's academic programs and the faculty and students I have been privileged to meet. The Duke University School of Nursing (DUSON) is growing at tremendous speed and now has just under 500 students enrolled in the ABSN, MSN, PhD, and DNP programs!

On December 12, 2009, I was proud to participate in the Recognition Ceremony for the Class of 2010. Sixty-eight ABSN students received the Duke Nursing Pin, 21 students received MSNs, and six students received a post master's certificate. The ceremony took place at the Bryan Center and was filled with excited families and students. It took me back to the baccalaureate ceremony that my class had in Duke Chapel. The biggest difference was that we wore white uniforms and stockings and these students wore party dresses and jackets. The smiles all around were the same.

Currently, the School of Nursing boasts 71 ABSN students who started in August 2009, and this year another ABSN class of 52 has been added that just started in January. These numbers surpass the numbers of BSN students we had from 1984 and all previous years. Duke's ABSN program, which started in 2002, has exploded, and the quality of the students is quite impressive. I encourage all alumni to come back to Duke and visit the School of Nursing's extraordinary new building and introduce yourself to students and find out what brought them to Duke. You need not wait for your reunion year!

A pressing concern among the recent graduates is the depressed job market. Despite their excellent education, our graduates are finding that jobs are scarce and difficult to obtain. I encourage you, as alumni, to reach out to the school with any job opportunities in your work place. You can connect to Duke by visiting the DUSON Alumni and Friends website at [nursealum.duke.edu](http://nursealum.duke.edu). Consider also registering with the Duke Alumni Directory and the DukeConnect systems. In addition, you can connect to DUSON via Facebook and YouTube! I am sure any Duke Nursing Alumni would be proud to hire a recent Duke graduate.

Another concern is the need for nursing scholarships. Just recently, six students deferred their acceptance to the ABSN

program simply because of their need for more financial aid and concerns about the current economic environment. Other students in the masters and post-graduate programs are also feeling the financial strain as they actively pursue their dream of obtaining a superb education from DUSON.

Many of us give to Duke because of our strong and loyal bond with our alma mater. Please consider giving to the **Duke Nursing Annual Fund** so more students can receive direct financial aid during these difficult financial times. If you are one of the loyal Duke Nursing supporters, I thank you. I have made a commitment to allocating all gifts I give to Duke to go only to the Duke Nursing Annual Fund. In the last four years I have served on the alumni council I have been completely impressed with all the support DUSON offers its students. The current faculty and innovative programs are models for other nursing schools. The incoming students are leaving high paying careers to pursue nursing at the ABSN level. They want to receive a top notch education and Duke is, wisely, their choice. We need to help them realize their dreams. We need excellent nurses in the years ahead. Please consider giving to help these students.

I hope all of you are receiving the DUSON e-News updates. These updates allow the alumni to see the many opportunities and accomplishments that are occurring within your school. I hope you will also visit the new website for Duke Nursing Alumni. Get reconnected to your school and follow its exceptional endeavors. The Duke University School of Nursing continues to produce superb nurses! The graduates of Duke today will be our future nursing leaders!

I hope to see many of you at Nursing Reunion Weekend, April 16-17, 2010. I look forward to attending the nursing reunion events and meeting fellow alumni. Reconnect to your alma mater and you too will be proud of its accomplishments.



*Connie Kendall*

Connie C. Kendall, BSN'84, MSNA, CRNA

# classnews

## 1940s

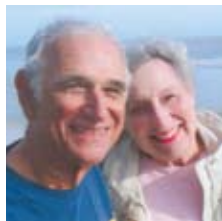
**Jane D. Swan, BSN'45**, of Andrews, N.C., has two daughters and six grandchildren. Daughter Mary has an MBA from UNC-Chapel Hill and a master's in library science from the University of Texas at Austin. **Caroline, BSN'80**, has a BSN from Duke and a master's in continuing education.

## 1950s

**Mary Ruth Thornton Boynton, BSN'50**, of Knoxville, Tenn., is now retired after having spent 18 years teaching community health nursing at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville School of Nursing, where she currently serves on the Board of Visitors. The school named a lecture series in her honor. She has a son and a daughter who both live in Knoxville and a four-year-old granddaughter. Her husband M.T. passed away in 2008.

**Virginia Sego Craig, BSN'55**, retired since 2000, has diabetes and heart problems and recently underwent a heart catheterization to have stents placed in a coronary artery. She lives in Greenville, S.C., and has four daughters. The oldest is Loyce; Beth has four children and lives across the street from Virginia; Nelda, a registered nurse, works in the oncology unit at Greenville Memorial Hospital; and Rebecca works at a law firm in Greenville.

**Judith Hudson Lefkowitz, BSN'56**, of Nashville, Tenn., retired in 1985 as research assistant to the chairman of the Department of Anatomy (now Cell Biology) at Vanderbilt

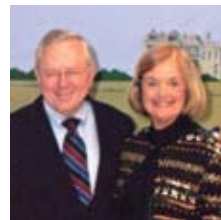


University School of Medicine. She and her husband **Lewis B. Lefkowitz Jr., MD, HS'56-'57**, have three sons and several grandchildren. Lewis, an emeriti professor of preventive medicine at Vanderbilt, recently was honored by Vanderbilt with a monthly conference named in his honor. The Lefkowitz Hour: Clinical Medicine and Patient Advocacy, allows medical students, faculty, and house staff to review challenging medical cases from Vanderbilt's Shade Tree Clinic, a free student-run

health clinic in East Nashville. He also was selected as a Top 100 Grads and Patrons of the Vanderbilt School of Nursing, where he mentored nurse practitioners for 35 years.

**Ann Teague Nandrea, BSN'56**, of Franklin, N.C., works five evenings a month at a nursing home. She writes, "I couldn't quite give up nursing and wanted to see if I could still be a real nurse." She and her husband also own and operate a 50-acre farm. Ann previously helped found a local affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). She and her husband have two daughters who live in Wisconsin.

**Lynn Collins Clarke, BSN'59, MSN'63**,



sends regards from Michigan and regrets that she will not be able to attend this year's School of Nursing Alumni Reunion due to knee and back pain from post-polio syndrome. She and her husband James live in Levering, Mich., from May through October and in central Florida in the winter. They have two grown children and five grandchildren.

## 1960s

**Judith E. Harlow, BSN'64**, is a wellness counselor through Clemson University. Her husband Stephen recently completed his fifth book, a mystery set in Russia and Brooklyn, N.Y. They both enjoy volunteering for Habitat for Humanity and at their local church. Judith has three children. **Lucy, T'90**, is a nurse midwife; **Casey, T'93**, is an English teacher in Rome, Ga.; and Michael is a heavy-weight rowing coach at Columbia University. Judith and Stephen have six grandchildren between them. Both are retirees and are enjoying their "little bit of heaven" in Keowee Key, S.C.

**Sister Jean Gabriel Crothers, BSN'65**, is director of Centro Buen Pastor, an education and medical center for children in San Pedro de Macoris, Dominican Republic. She is currently helping to build a mission church and a new mission primary school. Outside of work she enjoys reading, photography, nature activities, and music.

**Sheila Rice Evans, BSN'66**, recently became quality improvement manager for Interim Healthcare of the Triangle in Durham, N.C. When not working she enjoys walking, reading, gardening, and singing in the

Durham Chorale. She and her husband, a UNC professor, live in Chapel Hill and have three children and three grandchildren.

**Sharon L. Stanley Alden, BSN'68**, has



accepted an invitation from the U.S. Army Nurse Corps to return to active duty after having been retired from the military since 1993.

She is stationed in Bamberg, Germany, through 2012 as nurse case manager for the Warriors in Transition Program. The program takes soldiers who require complex care and/or extensive case management and guides them through recovery to either return them to active duty or prepare them for life as a productive veteran. Alden had retired as a Lieutenant Colonel after 27 years of service, including tours in Vietnam and Iraq. In other news, she recently was elected to the Executive Board of the Vietnam Women's Memorial Foundation, which was responsible for placing the Women's Memorial at The Wall in Washington, D.C. She now is dedicated to educating people about the role of women in the military. She has two sons—Michael, a Sergeant First Class in the U.S. Army; and Andrew, a graduate student and football coach at The Citadel.

**Judie K. Dalson Ritter, BSN'68**, is retired and working as a volunteer with the 100 Great Nurses Scholarship Program in Florida. She also shows horses at hunter-jumper competitions, does organic gardening and yoga, and plays the piano. She has four stepchildren and two grandchildren and lives in Ponte Vedra, Fla.

## 1970s

**Joan Schweickart Rice, BSN'70**, has written the book, "Parenting Solutions: Encouragement for Everyday Parenting Concerns," published by Paragon House and available on Amazon.com. Rice has been a parent educator for 35 years and holds a California Teaching Credential in



parent education. She and her husband Gary live in Santa Maria, Calif. They have three grandchildren and were expecting a fourth in February.

**Connie Bossons Bishop, BSN'75**, has been appointed as a senior examiner for the N.C. Awards for Excellence, the Baldrige-based performance improvement program for North Carolina. She also was appointed to the 2009 Board of Examiners for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, which is the highest level of national recognition a U.S. organization can receive. As an examiner Bishop is responsible for reviewing and evaluating applications submitted for the award. The board is composed of approximately 500 leading experts selected from industry, professional, and trade organizations; education and health care organizations; and government. Bishop lives in Gibsonville, N.C.

**Tina Marie Marrelli, BSN'75**, president of Marrelli and Associates, Inc., a health care consulting and publishing company, was inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing at the academy's annual meeting in November. A total of 98 nurse leaders were inducted based on their significant contributions to nursing and health care and the extent to which their nursing careers influence health policies for the benefit of all Americans. Marrelli and her husband William L. Glass live in St. Henry, Ohio.

**Nancy Munn Short, BSN'76, B'91**, received the 2009 Arnold Kaluzny Distinguished Alumni Award from the Public Health Leadership Program at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health. She also was named a member of Who's Who in Health Policy in North Carolina. She currently is an associate clinical professor at Duke University School of Nursing, where she teaches health policy, health economics, and population health to graduate and doctoral students.

**Joan Cassetta Gurvis, BSN'77**, was married to James Taggart Shields on Aug. 15, 2009. The couple lives in Colorado Springs, Colo.

**Cindy Shapiro Lipton, BSN'78**, of Morris Plains, N.J., is making plans to return to nursing after 21 years. She currently is volunteering with a program that allows her to use many of her nursing skills, and in May she will take a nurse refresher course. Her oldest daughter Sheri graduated cum laude from Syracuse University in 2008 and is employed

with an engineering company, where she designs bridges. Her daughter Brenda is a junior musical theater and musical theater education major at American University. Her son Derek is a high school junior who plays soccer on a premier travel team.

## 1980s

**Pamela C. Slaughter, BSN'80**, is a clinical registered nurse at SHAPE (Supreme Headquarters for the Allied Powers of Europe) in Belgium. She is certified in pediatric advanced life support, advanced cardiac life support, and pediatric nursing and is a basic life support instructor. Her husband is now a retired public health physician. While the couple lives in Belgium, their three adult children and two grandchildren live in the United States.

**Linda Seymour Hodgens, BSN'81**, has started LightShine Pomeranians in Newburgh, N.Y., for the breeding of champion dogs to promote mental health. Her breeding program features white, cream, and orange Pomeranian puppies. The operation is noted for gaining PupSAFE certification. She and her husband **Jay, E'81**, have three children and live in Rock Tavern, N.Y.

## 2000s

**Margaret "Margo" Moore, MSN'08**, accepted a job in August 2009 as an oncology nurse practitioner in the breast cancer clinic at Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center at Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington, D.C. She lives in Arlington, Va.

**Kimberly A. Alexander, ABSN'09**, received the Ruby L. Wilson Award for Clinical Excellence, which is given annually at graduation to the ABSN student who most clearly demonstrates



clinical excellence and leadership and who has attained an exemplary academic record during the first three semesters of the program. She lives in Gainesville, Fla.

# obituaries

## 1930s

**Delores Camp Atkins, N'35**, of Durham, N.C., died Oct. 2, 2009. She was 94. She worked as a private duty registered nurse and founded the Child Centered School in 1954. She later worked on the pediatric wards at Duke and the Duke Eye Center. She is survived by two daughters, two sons, nine grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

**Margaret Davey Barbee, N'35**, of Clearwater, Fla., died Jan. 18, 2010. She was 96. She was a retired registered nurse from Morton Plant Hospital. She is survived by a son, a daughter, and four grandchildren.

**Frances Estes Reagan, BSN'37**, of Macon, Ga., died Dec. 2, 2009, at her home. She was 96. Reagan, a registered nurse, had worked at College Street Hospital and was retired from the Medical Center of Central Georgia. She is survived by a daughter, four grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

**Annie Beery Bieber, N'38**, formerly of Ft. Myers, Fla., died on Feb. 25, 2010, in Greensboro, N.C. During WWII she was an industrial nurse in a U.S. Steel defense plant in the Chicago area, and she spent three years in Hawaii as a dispensary nurse at Kilauea Sugar Plantation in Kilauea, Kauai. She was a member of the James B. Duke Society and the Duke Cornerstone Society. She is survived by two sons, a granddaughter, and two grandsons. Memorials may be made to the Annie Beery Bieber, N'38, and Gustave F. Bieber, MD'43, Scholarship Fund at the Duke University School of Nursing, 512 S. Mangum Street, Suite 400, Durham, NC 27701.

**Ida Shaw Applewhite Barber, BSN'39**, of St. Petersburg, Fla., died June 21, 2009. She was 93. She was a member of the Visiting Nurses Association of St. Petersburg; director of nursing during the start-up for the Neighborly Center for Elderly day care; director of nursing for the St. Petersburg chapter of the American Red Cross; and lead disaster coordinator for the 1977 Kentucky mudslide disaster. She is survived by a daughter, two sons, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

## 1940s

**Esther Parker McClain, BSN'40**, of Westlake, Ohio, died July 23, 2009. She was 90. As a nurse she cared for polio victims in Warm Springs, Ga., and served as a U.S. Army nurse during WWII. She is survived by three sons, two daughters, 13 grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.





## Harris Leads Push for a Healthier Durham

**Gayle Bridges Harris, BSN'72, MPH**, was just 4 years old when she met a woman who set her on a life course that has never wavered.

She and her father were visiting her grandmother, who was suffering from congestive heart failure, when a public health nurse came to call.

"She spent time talking with my grandmother, and she seemed to make her feel better," says Harris. "I said to my father, 'I want to do what she does.'"

Today Harris is executive director of the Durham County Health Department. She administers a \$21 million budget and deals with everything from quarantining dangerous dogs to controlling outbreaks of norovirus, hepatitis A, and tuberculosis.

She is thrilled to be overseeing the design and construction of a 280,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art human services building that will soon replace the cramped, windowless, and care-worn building where she has spent the past three and a half decades, steadily working her way up from public health nurse to director of nursing, assistant director, and acting director before finally receiving her current appointment in February 2009.

"I remember rolling our office chairs down the street when we moved to this building [from the original health depart-

ment building on the corner of Roxboro and Main streets] in 1976," says Harris.

Harris grew up in a close-knit then rural neighborhood on Durham's East Side. She went to an all black high school, Merrick-Moore. With the help of her advisor she received a Rockefeller grant to attend the Duke University School of Nursing. She was only the second African American student at the school, and she acknowledges that nearly all her classmates seemed to be from a much higher socio-economic group.

"I was my community's person," she says. "Lots of people in my neighborhood worked at Duke, and they'd look out for me."

Harris excelled at Duke, where she learned from nurse researchers and was given early exposure to clinical nursing. She remembers asking Dean Ruby Wilson permission to get married while still in school. She graduated in May 1972 and started work at the health department on July 3. She says with pride that she has never worked in a hospital setting.

"From the beginning, I liked the idea of working with people where they were, not trying to have them fit where I was," she says.

Harris continued working while she and her husband raised three sons, and she completed a master's in public health at UNC in 1990.

"She spent time talking with my grandmother, and she seemed to make her feel better. I said to my father, 'I want to do what she does.'"

She has been a key liaison between Durham County and Duke Medicine on two groundbreaking collaborations to improve the health of people in Durham County—Project Access of Durham County and Durham Health Innovations.

Harris serves as vice chair of the Board for Project Access, a partnership that links Durham residents who lack health insurance with a network of clinics, laboratories, pharmacies, and hospitals that donate their services. And she is currently co-chair of the Oversight Committee for Durham Health Innovations, which brings together community members, health and human services officials, local non-profits, and Duke researchers to develop and implement new evidence-based models of community care to prevent and manage chronic disease with the ultimate goal of improving health outcomes in Durham.

She describes the coming together of people from Duke and across the community as "almost spiritual." Nobody tried to put their name on it," she says. "And we have seen people return to work and their quality of life improve."

—MARTY FISHER



## Special Friendship Fuels Passion for Fighting CDH

### Duke Nurse Raffling Home to Raise Money

When Duke Hospital labor and delivery nurse **Venus Standard, ABSN'05, RN**, learned that Jessica Singletary's newborn daughter had just been resuscitated for a second time within the first few hours of life, her mothering instincts went into overdrive.

"Venus rushed into my recovery room, pushed aside my family, and picked me up and put me in a wheelchair," Singletary says. "I still don't know how she did it."

Standard wheeled a weak Singletary, 32, and her husband Ashley, 29, to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit where Parker Reese Singletary was losing her fight to stay alive because of a rare birth defect.

"Jess had not even seen her baby yet, and I was not going to let Parker die before she did," Standard says. The first-time parents were able to hold their daughter for the next 14 hours before Parker took her last breath in her father's arms.

What had already become a strong friendship was further strengthened by Standard's actions that day. Jessica Singletary says, "If she didn't do what she did for me, I would not have been able to see my daughter alive. Venus has become a very special part of my family, and I know that God had put her in my life in the right place and at the right time."

What Standard and Jessica Singletary both say was an immediate bond between them that started when Singletary was first admitted to Duke Hospital has grown into a passion for fighting the rare birth defect—Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia (CDH)—that took Parker's life. In CDH the muscle wall separating a baby's chest cavity from the abdominal area does not close properly, and the stomach and intestines fill the space where the lungs are, preventing them from developing. Sometimes surgery helps, but half of CDH cases are fatal.

Following the death of their daughter in 2006, the Singletarys formed the Parker Reese Foundation to increase awareness of CDH and raise money for CDH research. Standard has offered her three-bedroom, three-bath Chapel Hill townhome for the grand prize in a raffle, with proceeds going to the foundation. Tickets are \$10 each with the drawing slated for April 15.

If enough tickets are sold, the foundation will purchase Standard's home for the appraised value of \$240,000. All money raised beyond that will go to the foundation, which hopes to make a substantial gift to Duke Children's for CDH research. If not enough tickets are sold to purchase Standard's home, then what money is raised will be raffled in a 50-50 drawing, with 50 percent going to the winner and 50 percent to the foundation.

"Our ultimate goal for this foundation," says Jessica Singletary, a former paralegal, "is to be able to fund research. Until we do, families like mine will have to continue burying their children."

Standard says she works hard to separate her emotions from her work, "but sometimes the patient comes home with you no matter how hard you try." Standard and Jessica Singletary have remained close friends since they first met.

Early last year Standard saw a news story on CNN about a family who raffled their home for charity. She mentioned the possibility to the Singletarys, who own and operate a crop and cattle farm in Bladenboro, N.C.

"Jess really got her wheels in gear and researched the possibility," Standard says, "and by September 2009 we were thinking we could do this." Standard is selling her home so she can move closer to her daughter and grandson in Mebane, N.C. She sat for her mid-wifery boards in February and hopes to become a full-time midwife.

"Venus is just an amazing person," Jessica Singletary says. "We are so blessed to have her in our lives."

Standard cites three faculty members for their strong support during her time at DUSON: former Dean Mary T. Champagne, PhD; Queen Utley Smith, EdD; and Michelle Martin, PhD. "They were my strength," she says. "They got me through and I appreciate everything they did for me."

For information about the house raffle, visit [cdhhouseraffle.com](http://cdhhouseraffle.com).

For information about the Parker Reese Foundation visit [theparkerreesefoundation.com](http://theparkerreesefoundation.com).

—JIM ROGALSKI

**Laureen Rearden Steelman, BSN'40**, of Rowley, Mass., died Feb. 2, 2010. She was 92. In 1943 she sailed aboard the Queen Mary to England, where she served in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps with Duke's famed WWII 65th General Hospital in East Anglia. She is survived by two sons and four grandchildren.

**June Stone Anderson, N'42**, of San Lorenzo, Calif., died in hospice care at her home on March 25, 2009. She was 87. She is survived by three children, six grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter.

**Jeane Estes Tower, N'42**, died Aug. 23, 2009, at Regent Care Center in Reno, Nev. She was 88. She spent most of her adult life as a homemaker and mother. She is survived by four sons, a stepson, 11 grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

**Mary Barnes Brannan, BSN'44**, of Birmingham, Ala., died Nov. 19, 2009. She was 87. After graduating from Peace Junior College and the Duke University School of Nursing, she served in the U.S. Army Nursing Corps in the Philippines. She then worked at Johns Hopkins Hospital, where she was part of the first neonatal intensive care unit in the U.S. Brannan is survived by two sons and two daughters.

**Jessamine Fleming "Jacie" Owen, BSN'44**, of Jarrett, Va., died July 4, 2009. She was 86. She served for many years as a home health nurse. She is survived by three sons, a daughter, 10 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

**Betty Louise Riddle Bashinsky, N'45**, of Birmingham, Ala., died June 24, 2009. She was 85. She attended Elon University before transferring to Duke University School of Nursing. She was active in the Junior League and was a volunteer at St. Vincent's Hospital. She is survived by three children, nine grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

**Joyce Whitfield Dortch, N'46**, of Jensen Beach, Fla., died at her home on Aug. 9, 2009. She was 84. Born in Durham, she was a resident of West Palm Beach from 1952 until she moved to Jensen Beach in 1985. She is survived by a son, a daughter, and three grandchildren.

**Elizabeth Bowers Miles, BSN'49**, of Lake City, S.C., died Nov. 16, 2009, after a long illness. She was 86. After earning degrees at Coker College and Duke, she served in the U.S. Navy during WWII and was later employed with the federal government.

## 1950s

**Winifred Thompson Butler, N'50**, of Florence, Ala., died Jan. 9, 2009. She was 79.

**Carol Burnham Elwood, BSN'50**, of Marietta, Ga., died July 29, 2009. She was 80. She is survived by two sons, two daughters, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

**Betty Jewel Harn, N'51**, of Nokomis, Fla., died April 14, 2009. She was 80. Harn was a registered nurse from 1965–1995 at Sarasota Memorial Hospital. She is survived by her husband Joseph L. Harn Sr., two daughters, and three grandchildren.

**Barbara Dee Fish Gatland, N'52**, of Atlanta, Ga., died Dec. 10, 2009, at age 79. After earning a nursing diploma from Duke and a bachelor of science degree from Johns Hopkins University, she served as a nurse in Baltimore, Md., and became the assistant director for the pediatric department at Johns Hopkins. She is survived by her husband Ian R. Gatland, three sons, a daughter, and seven grandchildren.

**Betty Jane Flora McFarland, N'53**, of Burlington, N.C., died July 21, 2009. She was 78. She retired as a registered nurse at Alamance County Hospital. She is survived by two daughters, a son, two grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

**Rebecca Withers Harper, N'54**, of Spencer, N.C., died Dec. 19, 2009. She was 77. She worked at several hospitals in North Carolina before her retirement.

**Ruth Thomas Chosy, BSNEd'57**, of Brownsville, Texas, died Oct. 27, 2009. She was 85. She taught psychiatric nursing at Wayne State University in Detroit, Mich., and later supported the La Bartolina, Mexico, mission for 12 years, delivering food and medicine. Chosy is survived by two stepsons, four grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.

**Nancy Starling Hill, BSN'59**, died May 31, 2009. She was 72.

## 1960s

**Isabel Sklar-Jackson, BSN'63**, died suddenly at her home in Alpine, N.J., on Jan. 11, 2007. She was 65. She was a New York and New Jersey psychotherapist. She is survived by her husband Fred Jackson and a host of grandchildren, nephews, nieces, and friends.

**Cornelia Griffin Peterson, BSN'64**, of Durham died Aug. 17, 2009, after a four-year battle with cancer. She was 67. After graduating from Duke, she began a career as a registered nurse that lasted until her retirement in 2003. Her career included working as a staff nurse for 20 years with the Durham Veterans Affairs Medical Center. She earned a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1984. She is survived by her son **Lt. Col. Erik Terryl Peterson, T'89**, and her niece Kimberly Perry Gill.

**Nancy Hyre Odend'hal, BSN'65**, of Johnson City, Tenn., died Oct. 23, 2009. She was 66.

## 1970s

**Cheryl Meinert Morgan, BSN'70**, of Dallas, Texas, died Aug. 3, 2009. She was 62. Her career included serving as a nurse at Baylor University. She is survived by two daughters and two sons.

## Former Faculty

**Ruth E. Long, RN, CRNA**, of Durham, N.C., who helped to establish the Duke University School of Nursing's Nurse Anesthesia Program (NAP) and taught nurse anesthesia at Duke, died Aug. 3, 2009. She was 66. She was a graduate of the Watts School of Practical Nursing and the Watts Hospital Course in Operating Room Nursing. She attended North Carolina Central University and the Durham County Hospital School of Anesthesia for Nurses. Long was employed at Durham Regional Hospital as a certified registered nurse anesthetist for about 30 years, retiring in 2009. She was an active member of many state and national professional anesthesia organizations. In 2003 Duke established the Ruth E. Long Award for Exceptional Professional Achievements, given annually to a student in the NAP. Long is survived by her companion of 22 years, Sheila E. Weeks, a clinical nurse with the Durham Regional Hospital Auxiliary.



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“...be reminded of the nurse you wanted to be and have been educated to be... an excellent nurse... a thinking nurse... a connected, broad minded nurse... an engaged and globally minded nurse...”

—*Shane Anderson, ABSN'10*  
From his address to the graduating ABSN Class, December 2009

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