Congratulations to Deborah Hansen, who received research awards for two studies from the Department of Veterans Affairs Department of Nursing Research and Development! These are large projects and extremely prestigious awards. They represent a tribute to Deborah’s hard work, the mentoring she has received from her advisor Dr. Bobbie Lee, and her scientific research mentor from Washington University, Dr. Kelle Moley. Deborah said her research addresses paternal exposures to pesticides, herbicides, and radiation. Deborah shared the following summary of her work.

“The first study, Paternal Environmental Exposures and Gene Expression during Spermatogenesis is funded by the Department of Veterans Affairs 2008 VISN 15 Research award and will develop stage specific gene expression profiles of male germ cells following exposure of male mice to an environmental agent. The companion protocol, Paternal Environmental Exposures and Reproductive Outcomes: A Comparison of in Vitro and in Vivo Fertilization is designed to characterize the reproductive outcomes following the paternal exposures. This research is funded through the Department of Veterans Affairs 2009 HSR&D Nursing Research Initiative. This research is being conducted at Washington University under the guidance and expertise of Kelle Moley, MD who is my scientific research mentor”.

-Deborah Hansen

Congratulations to MSN student, Christine (Kippy) DiRie RN, BSN who became a Sue Shear Fellow on May 22, 2009 after attending the 21st Century Leadership Academy. This intensive one week residential program included 36 women from all campuses in the University of Missouri system. It is Missouri’s premier public policy development program focused on women’s leadership. Kippy’s favorite event during the week was debating a smoking bill on the floor of the Missouri capital building in the chamber of the House of Representatives. She would graciously like to thank Professor Sue Kendig MSN, RNC, WHCNP, JD, her instructor for the Master’s level Policy, Organization, & Financing in Health Care who encouraged her to apply for the program.

-Kippie DiRie

Kenya Haney, RN-BSN student, was featured in a story in the St. Louis American in June about her election as President of the National Student Nurses Association!! Way to go, Kenya!

Continued, Page 2
Student News, Cont.

Karen Gerst, BSN student shares that her husband is a firefighter who also participated when the Pink Breast Cancer fire truck came to Lake St. Louis on September 18th and 19th. She is proud of the support the firefighters give to this important cause and wanted to thank them in the newsletter.

Faculty and Staff News

Congratulations to Yakima Young-Shields who received the Missouri Nurses Association Nurse of the Year Award at their meeting on Oct. 2, 2009! This is a most well deserved accolade for Yakima and we are all proud of her accomplishments!

Congratulations to Dr. Dawn Garzon who made two presentations at the NPACE conference in St. Louis on Oct. 2, 2009. Dr. Garzon had an extremely busy and exciting summer as well. She was inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners at their annual meeting in late June, 2009. This is a wonderful honor! She also was interviewed on Channel 2 in June about child safety (protecting children in cars from the heat) and an e-parenting article she wrote was published! Many kudos for great work, Dawn!

Congratulations to Dr. Anne Fish on the following publication!! It is wonderful to see so much good work going to press.

Congratulations to Dr. Kuei-Hsiang Hsueh for receiving a joint faculty appointment in the Gerontology program! This is fabulous news and a wonderful opportunity for expanded interdisciplinary collaboration.

Margaret Barton-Burke, Mary Ann Lee Endowed Professor in Oncology Nursing, learned that her paper on “Suffering as a Multicultural Experience” published in Seminars was summarized in the Recent Literature section of Journal of Palliative Medicine, September issue, page 847. Congratulations, Margaret on this wonderful testament to the quality and importance of your work!

More congratulations are in order for the extremely successful “Black Women & Breast Cancer: Knowledge is Power” conference that Dr. Barton-Burke and project coordinator, Ebony Smith led on Nov. 7!! Approximately 200 people were present to learn strategies for breast cancer prevention and survivorship in this exciting and inspiring conference sponsored in part by a grant Dr. Barton-Burke received from the St. Louis Chapter of the Susan B. Koman Foundation.

Continued, Page 3
Faculty and Staff News, Cont.

UMSL/BJC Summer Nurse Externship was a roaring success!

Lisa Sinacore shares that "fifty-four nurse externs from 19 colleges of nursing participated in our summer externship program which we co-sponsor with BJC. We had a record number of 118 applicants for these 54 spots! The students spent 10 weeks working full time (32-36 hours per week) with their assigned mentors. Externs were placed at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis Children's Hospital, Barnes-Jewish St. Peters Hospital, and Christian Hospital. We also had the privilege of having 3 VALOR students from the Veterans Administration Hospital attend the weekly four hour class. We ended the summer with a farewell lunch at the College of Nursing. Overall, it seems a great summer was had by all. For more information, check out our website at http://www.umsl.edu/divisions/nursing/umslbjc/index.html. New 2010 information coming soon to this site!" -Lisa Sinacore

Alumni News

Two exciting events marked special milestones for College of Nursing alumni this semester. First, the Elizabeth McIntosh and Jerry Durham Endowed Alumni Lecture was held on Sept. 15, 2009 with Dr. Marilyn S. Sommers speaking on "Building a Program of Research in Injury Science: How Curiosity Never Kills the Cat". Dr. Sommers is the Lillian S. Brunner Professor of Medical-Surgical Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing and an internationally known nurse scientist. The program was very well attended and was preceded by a day of research consultations with students and faculty. Four new awards were given at the event for alumni, preceptors, faculty, and staff. "Making a Difference Excellence" awards were given to Dr. Jeanne Zack (BSN and PhD alumnus), Dr. Jean Nelson (faculty), Douglas Hughey (staff), and Jane Rorbaugh, PNP (preceptor). Congratulations to each of these very worthy recipients!

The second very exciting event was the reactivation of the College of Nursing Alumni Chapter! Interested alumni attended a meeting following the Endowed Lecture and voted on new officers. Those individuals are: Heather Thompson, BSN, RN, President; Debra Lueckerath, MSN, RN, Vice President; Mimi Hirschberg, MSN, RN, Secretary; and Chrystal Lewis, MSN, RN, Treasurer. Heather Thompson serves as the chapter representative to the UMSL Alumni Association Governing Board. Together, she and Debra Lueckerath, along with Dean Sebastian and Dr. Jeanne Zack, member of the Governing Board, received the chapter charter at the quarterly meeting of the Governing Board on Nov. 10. What an exciting time and a wonderful way for alumni to stay connected with their alma mater! More news will be coming from the College of Nursing chapter, so stay tuned!
Special Events

College of Nursing Leadership Council member, Dr. Jeffrey Brooks, was the speaker at the inaugural UMSL Great Lecture on Oct. 21, 2009. This event was co-sponsored by the UMSL Executive Leadership Consortium, the UMSL Alumni Association, and the College of Nursing. Dr. Brooks’ topic, “Profession, Passion, Invention”, blended his professional expertise as a podiatrist with his entrepreneurial acumen and philanthropic philosophy. The audience included nursing students, faculty, and staff, as well as students, faculty, and staff from the College of Business and many others from the UMSL community. This exciting event was organized by Dr. Malaika Horne, Director of the UMSL Executive Leadership Consortium who did a tremendous job along with Jeri Peterson from UMSL Special Events. Thanks to everyone who attended and to Dr. Brooks for a great evening of thought-provoking dialogue, inspiration, and collegueship.

Dr. Darlene Sredl and Janis Dickerman, Director of Nursing at Barnes Jewish Extended Care worked with a team of colleagues to co-sponsor a Cultural Congruence conference on the UMSL campus, Oct. 7, 2009, entitled “Delivering Culturally Congruent Health Care in Diverse Practice Settings”. The conference was a huge success and included numerous presentations on cultural practices and preferences representing a wide array of points of view and heritage. Conference funding came from a grant made to Barnes-Jewish Extended Care from the Barnes-Jewish Hospital Foundation.

New Building News

You may have seen the conceptual diagrams of the new College of Nursing/College of Optometry complex in the front lobby of the College. How exciting! The concept of interprofessional collaboration and the progressive learning, research, and clinical environments the building will make possible is catching many individuals’ attention. We are preparing for a fund raising planning study that will begin in January with the firm CCS, Inc. This will yield a plan that we can follow to raise the funds necessary for the new building in these challenging economic times. This is not the best time to attempt a project of this magnitude, but the dream is there and we will move toward our goal with the help of a great plan. When the building comes to fruition we can all say that we were part of something very important that will create fabulous learning spaces and spaces for interprofessional research and clinical practice!

College of Nursing Continuing Accreditation

The College of Nursing will be visited by a team of four individuals representing the Commission for Collegiate Nursing Education from Nov. 16-18, 2009 for the regular ten year continuing accreditation. Thanks to everyone for all of the hard work and great analysis that went into the self study!

Continued, Page 5
Thank you to everyone who has been involved in preparation for the continuing accreditation visit!

Continuing Accreditation, Cont.

We look forward to the visit and to continuing to build on the foundation of excellence and making this college, its student and faculty outcomes, and the academic and research experiences the very best. Thank you also to everyone who plans to participate in the visit!

College of Nursing Five Year Review by the Missouri State Board of Nursing

The College of Nursing also is scheduled for its regular five year review of the pre-licensure BSN program by the Missouri State Board of Nursing. Two individuals will visit on Nov. 17, coinciding with the CCNE visit. The process of the self studies for both the MSBN and CCNE has been a great one and yielded many excellent insights and ideas for continuing growth and enhancement. Again, thank you to all!

Welcome New Colleagues!

The College of Nursing would like to welcome our new faculty, staff, and visitors. On the following pages, we are featuring introductory paragraphs and pictures from each of our new colleagues.

Mimi Hirshberg

Mimi has spent 10 years as adjunct faculty in the College of Nursing, teaching in the Summer Nurse Externship, Senior Synthesis, Assessment Lab, Simulation, and clinicals for Adult Health. Mimi recently worked as a member of the Vascular Access Team at Barnes Jewish Hospital and currently is a facilitator for the Nurse Residency Program at the hospital. She is secretary of the College of Nursing’s Alumni Chapter and a member of the committee planning the African American Nursing Conference at UMSL. She is a diploma grad of Barnes School of Nursing, has a BA from Webster University and a BSN from SLU. Her Masters in Nursing is from UMSL in the Clinical Specialist track. Beyond the halls of the College, she is in a book club, on several community boards, gardens, does aerobics and tries to keep track of her 3 adult kids, two Yellow Labs, 3 cats... and a husband.

-Mimi Hirshberg
Welcome New Colleagues, Cont.

Wendi Smith Weinrich
Wendi Smith Weinrich RN, MSN, CCRN has been a registered nurse for 15 years. She has spent the majority of her career in pediatric critical care nursing, most recently working in the pediatric cardiac intensive care unit setting. Wendi loves the challenge the pediatric population brings, while caring for the spectrum of patients from newborns to young adults. She is certified in pediatric critical care nursing and an ECMO (Extra Corporal Membrane Oxygenation) specialist. Wendi’s nursing philosophy is based on humanism and diversity appreciation.

Wendi graduated from UMSL with an MSN in Nursing Education in May 2009. She is a recipient of the Shirley A. Martin Distinguished Nurse Award, awarded by the College of Nursing, and a nominee for the 2009 Excellence in Nursing Award at St. Louis Children’s Hospital. Her research interests include ventilator associated pneumonia in the pediatric intensive care unit population and nursing implications for the use of Dexmedetomidine for sedation in the pediatric population.

Wendi is originally from New Jersey, in the suburbs of New York City, and has been in St. Louis for 5 years. She is thrilled to be a part of the UMSL College of Nursing faculty and looking forward to developing relationships with students and faculty alike.

- Wendi Smith Weinrich

Keun Ja Cho
Hello Everyone! Really nice to meet you. I am Keun Ja Cho, a visiting scholar in the College of Nursing.

It is an honor to have an opportunity to greet to you. I arrived at University of Missouri-Saint Louis in early August, and I will be in the College of Nursing for one year. I was very impressed everyone including Dean Sebastian to welcome me.

Thank you for that nice welcome. I have been experiencing new education method and recent research trend. They are very exciting to me. I will do my best to learn a lot of things relating education and research. I hope to say “Hello” to you with smiles when we meet on campus.

Thank you very much. 

-Keun Ja Cho
Welcome new Colleagues, Cont.

Rick Yakimo
My name is Rick Yakimo and I am an Assistant Professor on the tenure track. Clinically, I am an advanced practice psychiatric nurse with special interests in the mental health needs of older adults, traumatic stress, and the psychosocial care of people who are physically ill. All three of my nursing degrees are from Saint Louis University. Prior to UMSL, I taught nursing at Saint Louis University and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville; courses included psychiatric nursing and clinicals, epidemiology, and brain and behavior.

I came to UMSL to develop my research capacities and agenda. My research interests generally concern quality of care and outcomes analyses. Accordingly, I have collaborated on projects/publications with colleagues from other nursing specialties as well as social work and pharmacy. During the past two years, I have served as a research and evidence-based consultant for a local hospital that recently achieved Magnet® Recognition. Most recently, I served as a junior editor and contributor to the eighth edition of Health Promotion Strategies Through the Life Span.

In my quiet time, I love good food, the outdoors, photography, animals, and gardening.

-Rick Yakimo

Jill Maldeney
Jill Maldeney recently joined the College of Nursing as the new Admissions Representative, after serving as the Honors College Admissions Representative since January 2008. She hopes to use the knowledge and experience that she gained from working with UMSL students at the Honors College to increase student enrollment and create a positive experience for each potential student at the College of Nursing.

Jill has a B.E.S. in Educational and Counseling Psychology from the University of Missouri, and an M.S. in Sport Administration from Florida State University. She has a 3-year-old pug named Roscoe, is an excellent parallel parker, and is deathly afraid of horses.

-Jill Maldeney
Welcome New Colleagues, Cont.

We highlight two faculty members on this page who hold adjunct or part time appointments. Others of our important and wonderful adjunct faculty members will be highlighted in upcoming newsletters.

Chrystal Lewis
Hi everyone. My name is Chrystal Lewis. I am happy to join UMSL’s faculty. I am an adjunct faculty and I am working as Retention Coordinator and teaching clinical for fundamentals. I am also the treasurer for UMSL’s College of Nursing Alumni Chapter.

I received my BSN from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. I received my MSN as a nurse educator from UMSL in August 2009. I am currently pursuing my PhD in nursing also at UMSL. My research interests are with nursing informatics, communication, and family education in the ICU setting. I have a practice background of Adult Med/Surg and Adult Med/Surg ICU. I currently work part – time at Missouri Baptist’s ICU.

In my free time, I like to read and travel. I am married and have a dog who is my baby boy and my husband has two cats. -Chrystal Lewis

Lloyd Richardson
Professor Lloyd Richardson has joined the College of Nursing part time as the Acting Director of Research. Dr. Richardson is a Curator’s Professor in the UMSL College of Education in the Division of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. He holds a PhD in math and psychology from the George Peabody College at Vanderbilt University. Dr. Richardson has written extensively and has received over three million dollars in external funding. One of his publications has a link with nursing. Together with J.K. Richardson, he co-authored a book entitled, “The Mathematics of Drugs and Solutions With Clinical Applications” that went into six editions, with the most recent in 2004. Dr. Richardson has received numerous awards for his teaching and scholarship, including the Curators’ Professorship which he holds, a Distinguished Teaching Award (2002), and the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching (1993), among many others. Professor Richardson indicates that he is very excited about working with the College of Nursing and looks forward to facilitating faculty research.
Caring for Missourians has made it possible to increase our BSN pre-licensure program by 16 students, our MSN program by 10 students, and our PhD program by 5 students!

Message from the Dean

My mind is filled with thoughts of continuous quality improvement, health care reform, the state of the economy in Missouri in how that may affect higher education, and our own participation in the Caring for Missourians initiative. Each of these trends and issues shares some elements in common. I think it is all about how each of us promotes excellence in nursing education, research, practice, and leadership no matter what our roles. From an educational perspective, we continually challenge ourselves to improve and to do that we need data and feedback mechanisms. Using evaluation feedback helps us close the loop and make real improvements, thereby promoting “organizational learning”, a concept described over thirty years ago by social scientists, Chris Argyris and Donald Schön in a 1978 book by the same name. In my view, excellence and continual improvement include both improvements in quality and an ongoing search for efficiency. In today’s world all of us understand the importance of protecting resources, whether they are natural resources, human resources, or financial resources, to name a few. Thus, I would say that prudent stewardship is a part of continuous quality improvement. I think prudent stewardship includes making thoughtful investments in innovations that will enhance quality and doing so in a way that is mindful of the importance of those resources. Gary Forsee, President of the University of Missouri system, has asked us to think about doing our work in new and creative ways as part of our response to the very tight economic times in which we live. I think that approach, i.e., thinking in new ways, is what we do in higher education and health care – it is part of who we are and so it feels natural to stretch our thinking.

One opportunity we have right now for innovation is with the state-funded Caring for Missourians initiative. What a vote of confidence from Governor Nixon and the Missouri legislature who agreed to fund expansion of selected health professions programs in public colleges and universities in Missouri. We increased our BSN pre-licensure program by 16 students this year, and are increasing the MSN program by 10 students and the PhD program by 5 students. This is very exciting – and a great way to address the nursing shortage in Missouri.

Best wishes and a very happy Fall Break to all!

Julie Sebastian
Dean
Tech Corner by: Douglas Hughey

Office 2007 documents showing up as ZIP files?

A common problem that has recently popped up is that some email attachments open up as ZIP files when downloaded through a web browser. Specifically, Microsoft Office 2007 documents (such as Word: .docx, Excel: .xlsx, PowerPoint: .pptx), are interpreted as ZIP files when downloaded from e-mail through Microsoft Internet Explorer. I will detail some workarounds and solutions in this space.

As the person who is sending an Office document as an e-mail attachment, you have the choice of saving the file in Office 2003 format. Not only will this ensure that the file downloads correctly as opposed to in ZIP format, but it ensures that the receiver can open the file even if they have not upgraded to Office 2007. To do this, simply click on the Office button, then Save As, and choose Word 97-2003 document (or Excel, PowerPoint, etc.)

As the person receiving an Office 2007 document that shows up as a Zip file, you have the option of downloading the file using an alternate web browser, such as Mozzilla Firefox. This browser is available as a free download from http://www.firefox.com. It is also installed by default on all UMSL office computers. Firefox correctly interprets the file as Office 2007, so this is a great option.

Finally, if you really prefer Internet Explorer and want to fix the problems as they occur, you can rename the file after you download it. To do this, you must make sure you set your computer to NOT Hide Extensions of Known File Types (check here for more information: http://www.fileinfo.com/help/windows-show-extensions.html). Then just click on the downloaded file with extension .zip, and change the extension to .docx, .xlsx, .pptx, etc. The file will now open right up!

Upcoming Events

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<td>Fall Break</td>
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<td>Dean’s Student Advisory Council meeting</td>
<td>Tuesday, 12/1 at 4:30pm</td>
<td>Conf. Rm. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Nursing Leadership Council meeting</td>
<td>Friday, 12/4 at 8:30am</td>
<td>Conf. Rm. 2</td>
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<td>UMSL Faculty Book Author Reception</td>
<td>Monday, 12/7, 3pm - 5pm</td>
<td>MSC</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITV Broadcast of Nurses’ Health Study Breast Cancer Risks (from UMC School of Nursing)</td>
<td>Monday, 12/14 at 10am</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>Conversation with the Dean</td>
<td>Wednesday, 12/9, 12pm - 1pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>BSN Program Meeting</td>
<td>Monday, 12/14, 10am-12pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSN Program Meeting</td>
<td>Friday, 12/18, 10am - 11:30am</td>
<td>Conf. Rm. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty Association Meeting</td>
<td>Friday, 12/18, 12pm - 3pm</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commencement</td>
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<td>Mark Twain Building</td>
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