Happy Holidays to the College of Nursing Faculty, Staff and Students
• Sherrie Ames received the Silver U Award for November. She is a staff assistant on the Lincoln campus and has been employed at the College of Nursing for 15 1/2 years.

• Mary Megel has been appointed to the Nebraska Board of Nursing as the baccalaureate nursing program representative.

• Cheryl Bagley Thompson presented “Getting your Research Project to Fly” at the annual Air Medical Transport Conference in Kansas City, Mo., in November. Her co-presenter was Cheryl Erler Mattera of Indiana University.

• The following publication announcements have been made by College of Nursing faculty:
  • Kathleen Duncan and Bunny Pozehl had an article published in the Spring 2002 issue of the journal “Progress in Cardiovascular Nursing.” The title of the article is “Staying on Course: The Effects of an Adherence Facilitation Intervention on Home Exercise Participation.”
  • “Feasibility of a Sleep Intervention During Adjuvant Breast Cancer Chemotherapy,” is the name of an article published by Ann Berger, S. VonEssen, B. Kuhn, Barb Piper, Lynne Farr, Sangeeta Agrawal, J. Lynch and P. Higginbotham, in the Oncology Nursing Forum.
  • Jan Atwood and Bernice Yates were coauthors with doctoral student J. Peterson on the article, “Criteria for Church-based Health Promotion Programs,” which was published in Public Health Nursing.

• The College of Nursing Omaha Division contributed $7,094 to the 2002 United Way Campaign. This is an increase of $246 over last year. Seventy percent of the cards sent out were returned with donations which made the College of Nursing second highest in percentage of return at UNMC for the second year in a row.

• Pam Miya was honored Nov. 9 for her contributions to the Heartland Equine Therapeutic Riding Academy. She has served as a volunteer to HETRA for the past 3 years. HETRA’s mission is to provide equine assisted therapeutic activities for individuals with disabilities.

• Student Services Advisor positions in Scottsbluff and Kearney have been filled recently. Hilary Christo is the new adviser in Kearney. Prior to coming to UNMC, Hilary was employed at the University of Nebraska-Kearney for 13 years as a staff secretary in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Kate Steinbock has accepted the student advising position in Scottsbluff. Kate has been working at Western Nebraska Community College as a student advisor for several years.

• In September, Barbara Piper gave a plenary paper on “Cancer-Related Fatigue: Nursing’s Key Role” at the first All Ireland Cancer Fatigue Coalition Meeting in Dublin, Ireland. The meeting, sponsored by the Irish government, the National Cancer Institute and Ortho Biotech, brought together for the first time 350 northern and southern Ireland health care professionals to discuss the current state of the science on cancer-related fatigue and to initiate the process to implement and evaluate guidelines to manage fatigue in a study that will be conducted in Ireland and at the NCI.

• Lynne Buchanan has been appointed by the Board of Health to serve a four-year term as an advanced practice registered nurse member of the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses.

• Barbara Piper, representing UNMC’s Eppley Cancer Center, met with other members of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network’s (NCCN) Cancer Fatigue Panel in November to revise the evidence-based fatigue guidelines (nccn.org) and reviewed for the American Cancer Society and NCCN the revisions made to patient/family booklet that accompanies the practice guidelines.
Thank you

Thank you to everyone at the College of Nursing for the cards, the kind comments and the lovely plant in memory of my father-in-law. Mark and I and our two sons will miss him.

Dani Eveloff

Words cannot express how comforting it was to receive the notes, cards and floral arrangement sent to honor my mother at the time of her death. It is difficult to lose a parent no matter how old the child or parent. The thoughtful remembrances of my CON colleagues helped ease the loss. Thank you for nurturing me in this difficult time.

Mary McNamee

Thank you so much for all your kind thoughts and prayers following the death of my father. It means a great deal to me to have had all the support from my Kearney colleagues as well as those from other campuses. I appreciate those of you who could take the time to come to the visitation or funeral.

Diane Feldman

Fall Nursing Research Day Features 19 Grad Students

Nineteen students presented posters and three students did oral presentations at the Graduate Nursing 2002 Fall Research Day Nov. 7.

Danielle Whorlow received the Dean’s Award for Excellence in an Oral Presentation for her speech on “Identification and Validation of Competencies for Use in Objective Structured Clinical Examinations for Lay Caregivers.” Her advisors were Judy Heermann and June Eilers.

The Dean’s Award for Excellence in Poster Presentation was presented to Katherine Byer for her poster “Women Receiving Adjuvant Chemotherapy for Breast Cancer: Impact on Quality of Life and Fatigue.” Katherine’s advisor was Ann Berger.

Michael J. Romano received the Rena E. Boyle Award for Excellence in Clinical Nursing Research for his oral presentation on “Impact of Four Self Management Strategies on Perceived Self-Efficacy in Heart Failure Patients Over Time.” Catherine Todero was Michael’s advisor.

The Gamma Pi Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau Award for Excellence in a Research Presentation was awarded to Cindy Brown and AnneMarie DeVoll-Zabrocki for their poster “Pressure Ulcer Prevention in Hospitalized Children: Comparison of Two Methods of Occipital Pressure Relief.” Their advisor was Janet Cuddigan.
News from the Niedfelt Nursing Research Center

NOVEMBER GRANT SUBMISSIONS

- Susan Wilhelm (PI), Sangeeta Agrawal. Motivational Interviewing to Promote Sustained Breastfeeding. Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses.

RESOURCES ON THE WEB

Online Databases - Federal Grants

NIH Grants and Contracts Web Site
The National Institutes of Health web site provides a searchable database of NIH grant information or use the “document index” to browse a list of available publications. Provides application forms and procedures and guidelines relating to NIH grants. Also provides access to the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts, the official document for announcing the availability of NIH funds for biomedical and behavioral research and research training and disseminating policy and administrative information. (http://www.nih.gov/)

NSF Grants and Awards
The National Science Foundation provides information on funding opportunities, proposal preparation and award administration. Application forms are available for printing or downloading. (http://www.nsf.gov/)

U. S. Department of Education Grants and Contracts Information
This site gives information for new grant seekers, regulations for administering grant programs, applications, and details on grant and other programs at the U. S. Department of Education Grants and Contracts. (http://www.ed.gov/topics/topics.jsp?&top=Grants+%26+Contracts)

U. S. Government-wide Notices of Funding Availability
Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAS) are announcements that appear in the Federal Register, printed each business day by the United States government, inviting applications for Federal grant programs. This page allows you to generate a customized listing of NOFAS. (http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/index.html)

TRAM Research Funding Opportunities and Administration
Developed by the Texas Research Administrators Group, TRAM is a service which provides a search engine for locating funding opportunities from various agencies. Funding information is updated daily, and TRAM also has a selection of grant application forms and standard agreements for subcontracts, non-disclosures, licenses, and links to other sites that have research funding and administration. (http://tram.east.asu.edu/)
Omaha to Host State of Art Nursing Conference in March

The 8th Annual State of the Art Nursing Conference, “Nurses . . . Thriving on Your Journey,” is planned Friday, March 21, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Omaha. The conference is sponsored by Nebraska Health System, in sponsorship with Clarkson College and the UNMC College of Nursing.

The keynote speaker will be Sharon Cox, MSN, RN, CNAA. For nearly 15 years, Cox has created customized training and development programs for organizations through the United States and Canada.

Her background includes staff and line responsibility in large community hospitals as well as faculty and senior administrative positions in university schools of nursing and academic medical centers. Cox’s intent in all of her presentations is to offer workable ideas and approaches with a lasting impact rather than just a brief “workshop high.”

She serves on the editorial board of Nursing Management magazine and is currently coauthoring a book on organizational development.

In addition to the keynote speaker, there will be six concurrent sessions that feature 50-minute presentations from health care organizations and/or agencies in the region.

Though the deadline for oral presentations has passed, abstracts are being accepted for the poster session describing initiatives and creative strategies that address challenges and issues in nursing. A broad range of topics will be accepted. The deadline for abstract submission is Dec. 6.

More information on the conference is available by contacting Gloria O’Dowd, chairperson of the conference committee at (402) 559-7379 or email at GODowd@nhsnet.org.

UNMC College of Nursing Receives Diversity Award

The 2002 Chancellor's Diversity Award, in honor of the College of Nursing Diversity Task Force, was presented by Chancellor Harold Maurer to Dr. Ada Lindsey and the Diversity Task Force Nov. 22. The actual award will be housed on the Omaha campus.

The Task Force Chair is Rosaline Olade. Members of the task force include: Sangeeta Agrawal, Daoka Baccam-Hartman (student), Kathleen Barr, David Bedell, Catherine Bernosky de Flores (student), Judy Billings, Patricia Carstens, Elba Cera, Danette Eveloff, Karen Grigsby, Gloria Gross, Larry Hewitt, Lola Martin, Dawn Munn, Matthew Rutledge, Teresa Ryans, Linda Sather and Stephen Smith.

The Diversity Task Force at the College of Nursing provides an informational forum for students, faculty and staff to share cultural beliefs and experiences and promote open communication. Explorations of cultural backgrounds by diverse populations can enhance understanding and lessen the challenges of the unknown.

Students Admitted for Spring

The College of Nursing admitted 104 new BSN students for the spring 2003 semester across its four campuses. The Omaha Campus will have 36 new students starting the BSN program this spring with an additional nine new RN-BSN students. The Lincoln campus admitted 34 new BSN students plus six new RN-BSN students. Kearney campus admitted 18 new BSN Students and there were 16 new BSN students admitted to the Scottsbluff Campus as well as two new RN-BSN students.

The average GPA for all new BSN students was 3.152. The faculty and staff of the College of Nursing welcome all new students to the CON for the spring 2003 class.